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Transistor of Venus
竹本泉
Takemoto Izumi
トランジスタにヴィーナス
2

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エイプリル・イーナスは連合政府情報省の秘密諜報部員。簡単にいうとスパイ。彼女の周りでは人が死なないという本人にとってはあまりありがたくない特殊能力ゆえ"ヴィーナス"の異名をとる。 23世紀の宇宙を舞台に要人警護から文書略奪までその任務は多岐にわたる……竹本 泉のスパイアクション。連載時のカラーページを再録、なかがき・あとがき計14ページ、さらに描き下ろしのカラー口絵2点をつけてお届けします。

Takemoto Izumi

Hello. I'm Takemoto Izumi. Let's skip the formalities. This is the second volume of the futuristic sci-fi espionage story that's a little like "that." In this volume, Enus is going to keep on uh, er, um... well, you know, a little of "that." Please enjoy it without looking for any deeper meaning in it.
Ujauja *

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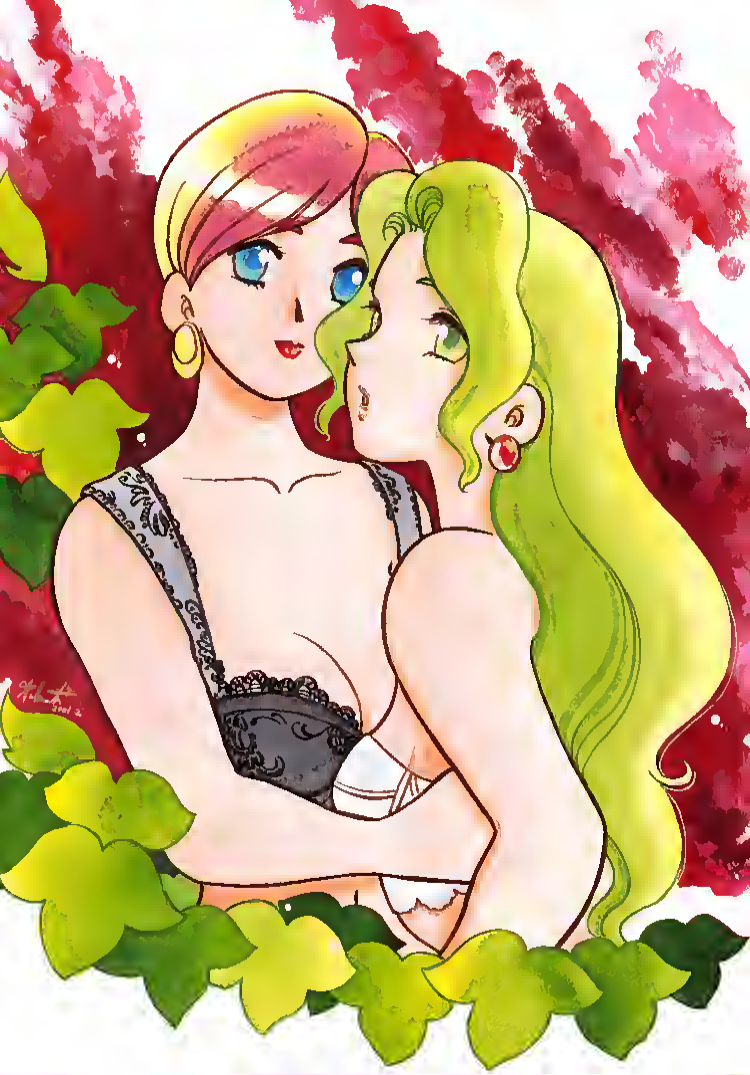
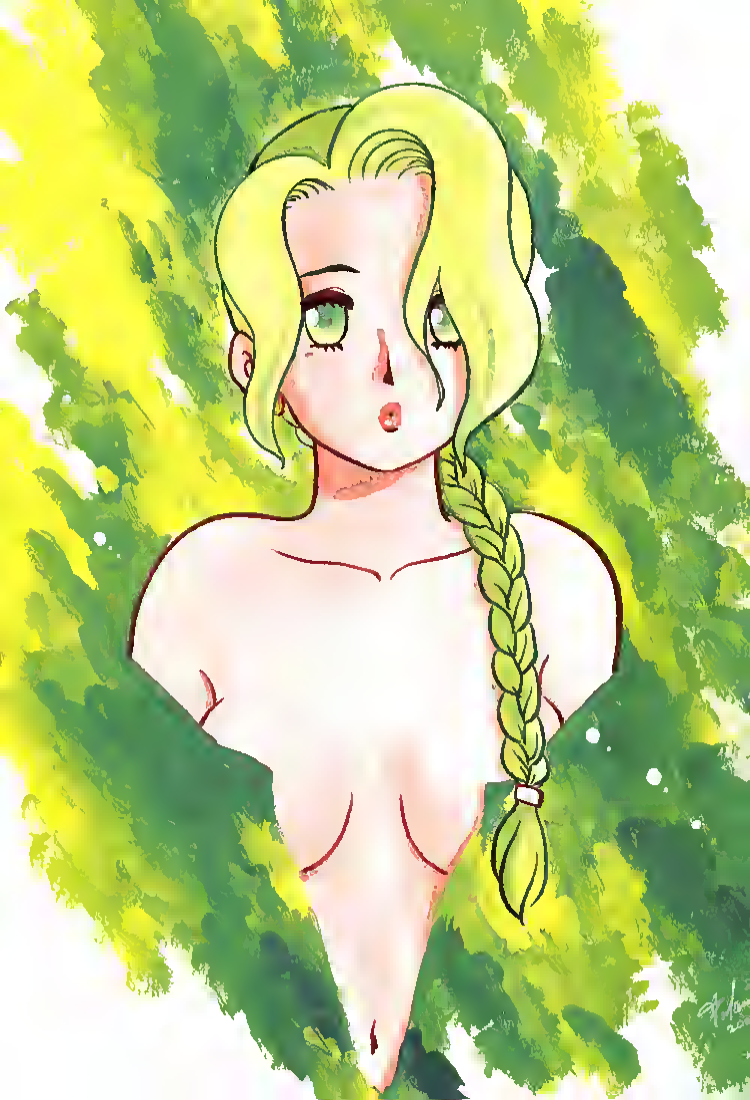
*note: Takemoto's trademark expression





Transistor ni Venus
Hiramoto Izumi
Transistor Venus
2

Transistor ni Venus

Tatsumaki Izumi

Transistor Venus 2

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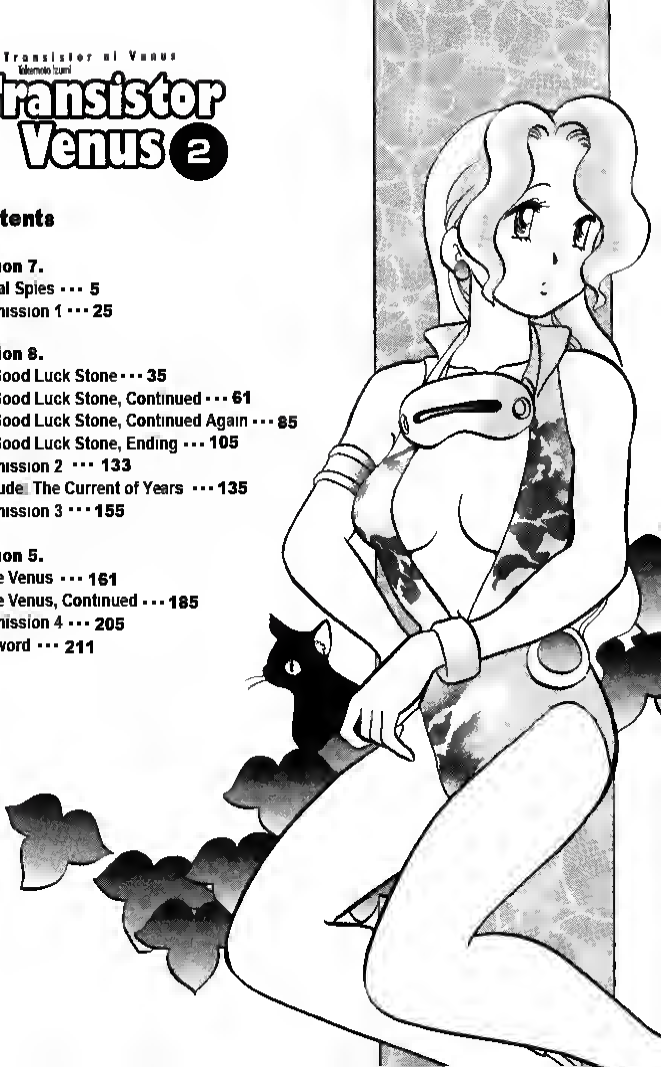
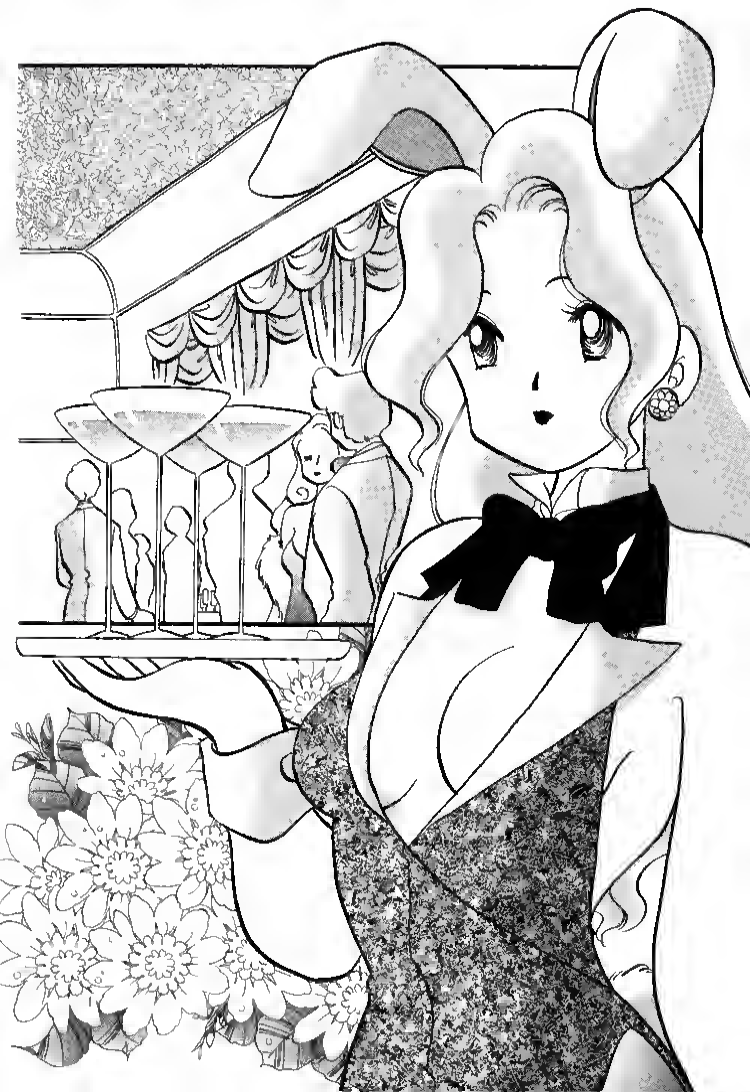
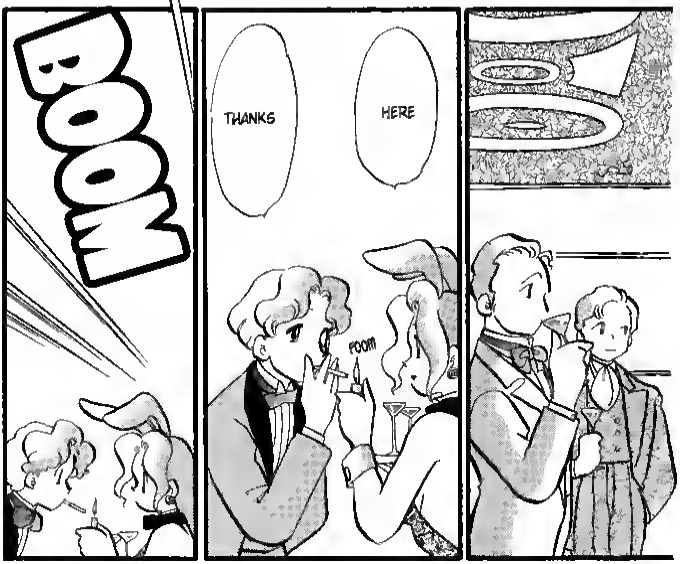


TAP
TAP





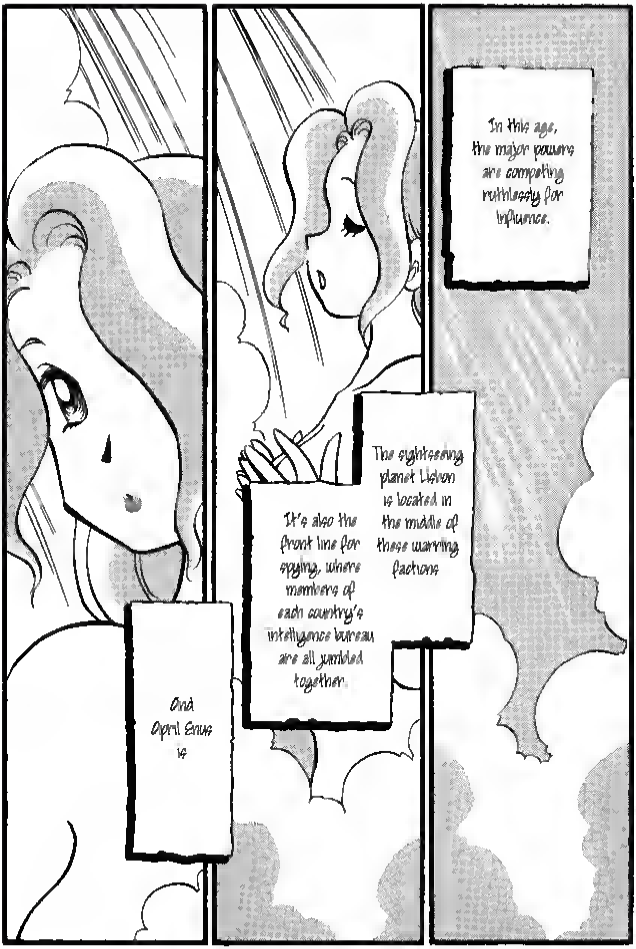
Mission 7. Animal Spies

Eeek!
Ahhhh!
What the...?
PUH!
GET A FIRE EXTINGUISHER!
slump
A FIRE?

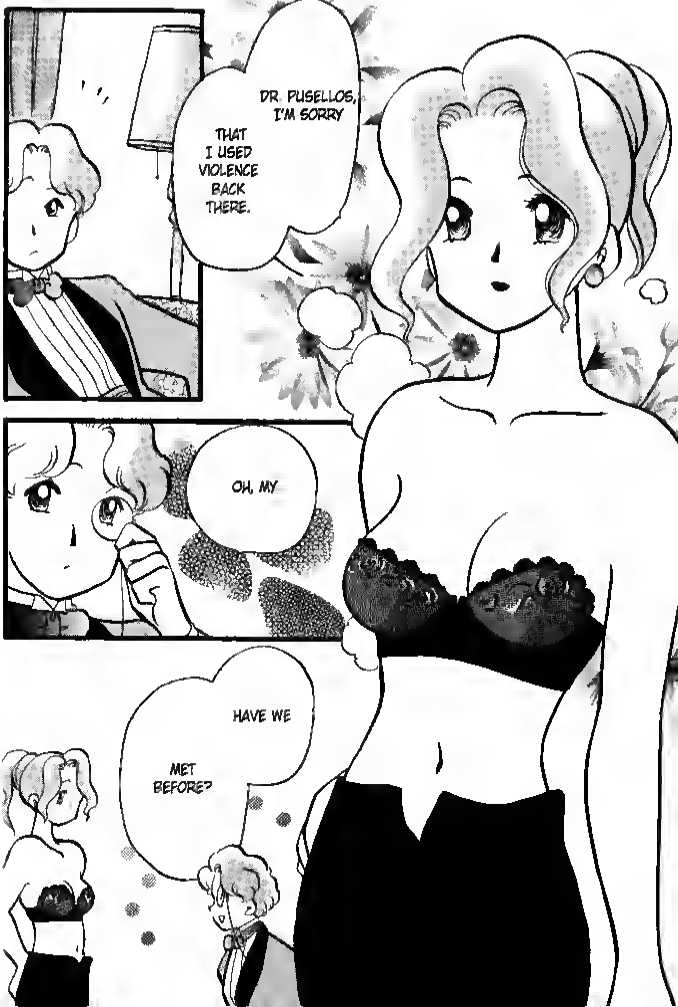
pop
pop
pop
Eeep!
AH!
RUFF
RUFF
RUFF
WINSLOW.

BABABABOOM
SORRY.
HOW'D THIS TURN INTO SUCH A BIG THING?
SCREEEECH
cough

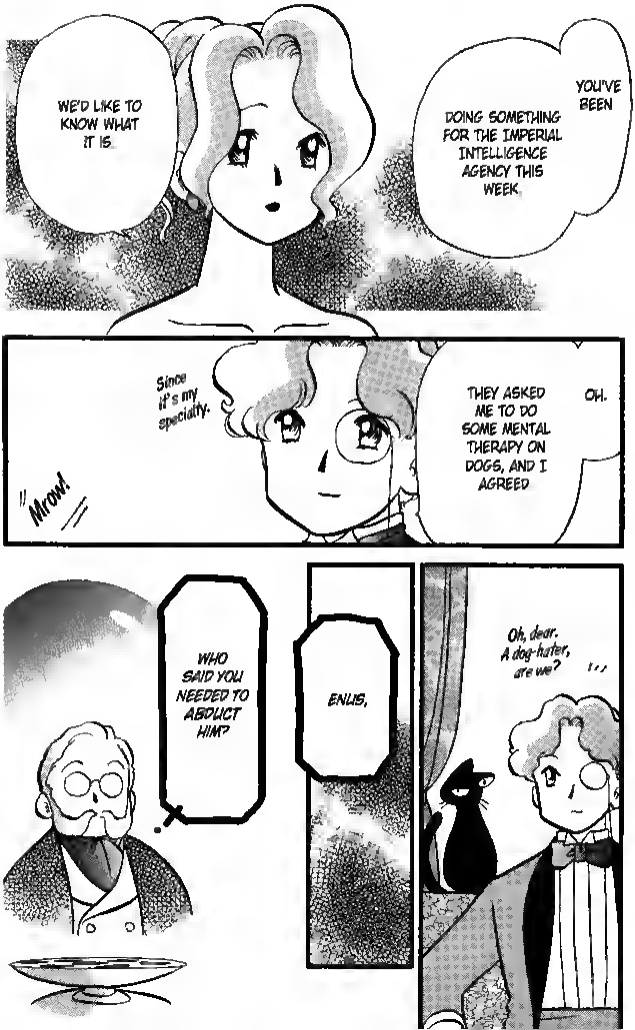
HEY! WINSLOW!
Don't just throw explosives around.
BOOM
SCREEECH
SCREECH
Heh
It is the 23rd century.


In this age, the major powers are competing ruthlessly for influence.
The sightseeing planet Lieven is located in the middle of these warring factions
It's also the front line for spying, where members of each country's intelligence bureau are all jumbled together.
And Agent Enos is

a lady sky who's also known as a goddess...
ENUS
DR. PUSELLOS IS AWAKE.
COULD SOMEONE POSSIBLY EXPLAIN TO ME WHAT'S GOING ON?
Ohhhh


DR. PUSELLOS, I'M SORRY
THAT I USED VIOLENCE BACK THERE.
OH, MY
HAVE WE MET BEFORE?

AT THE CLUB, A LITTLE WHILE AGO
Hmmm?
NO, I REALLY HAVE MET YOU BEFORE
HM?
BUT—
SO, YOU'RE KIDNAPPERS?
I'M ONLY A DOG PSYCHOLOGIST. I JUST CAME TO LISBON TO GO SIGHTSEEING.
I can't afford to pay a high ransom.
OH! YOU'RE THE BUNNY GIRL
I see!


WE'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT IT IS.
YOU'VE BEEN DOING SOMETHING FOR THE IMPERIAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY THIS WEEK.
OH.
THEY ASKED ME TO DO SOME MENTAL THERAPY ON DOGS, AND I AGREED
Since it's my specialty.
Mrow!
Oh, dear. A dog-hater, are we?
ENLIS,
WHO SAID YOU NEEDED TO ABDUCT HIM?

I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE QUICKER TO QUESTION THE DOCTOR DIRECTLY.
SIR.
I suppose it would be, but...
MY APOLOGIES, DOCTOR.
YOU MAY LEAVE IF YOU SO CHOOSE.
WELL, IT'S KIND OF YOU TO OFFER, BUT REALLY...
APPARENTLY, THEY HAVE A SHORTAGE OF THERAPISTS
AND THIS IS A SIGHTSEEING PLANET.

STRESS IS A PROBLEM FOR THE DOGS THAT SERVE THE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.
THOUGH I DON'T OFTEN COME ACROSS A WHOLE GROUP OF DOGS THAT HAVE HAD THEIR INTELLIGENCE AUGMENTED
WELL, PEOPLE IN THE EMPIRE LIKE DOGS
They're a hierarchical society, too.
I'LL SEE YOU OFF, DOCTOR.
NO, NO. AFTER EVERYTHING YOU PUT ME THROUGH, YOU'RE JUST GOING TO SEND ME ON MY MERRY WAY? I DON'T THINK SO

THIS IS OUR CHANCE. I DOUBT THEY'LL PUNISH YOU FOR STAYING WITH ME A BIT LONGER.
IF I DID THAT, I'D GET ATTACKED BY IMPERIAL SPIES
HMM. WAIT RIGHT HERE
YES, HELLO IT'S ME.
YES, I'M SAFE.
UHHH, WHO DO YOU WORK FOR? THE FEDERATION?
NO, THE ALLIANCE
I'M WITH A GIRL--A SPY FOR THE ALLIANCE.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.

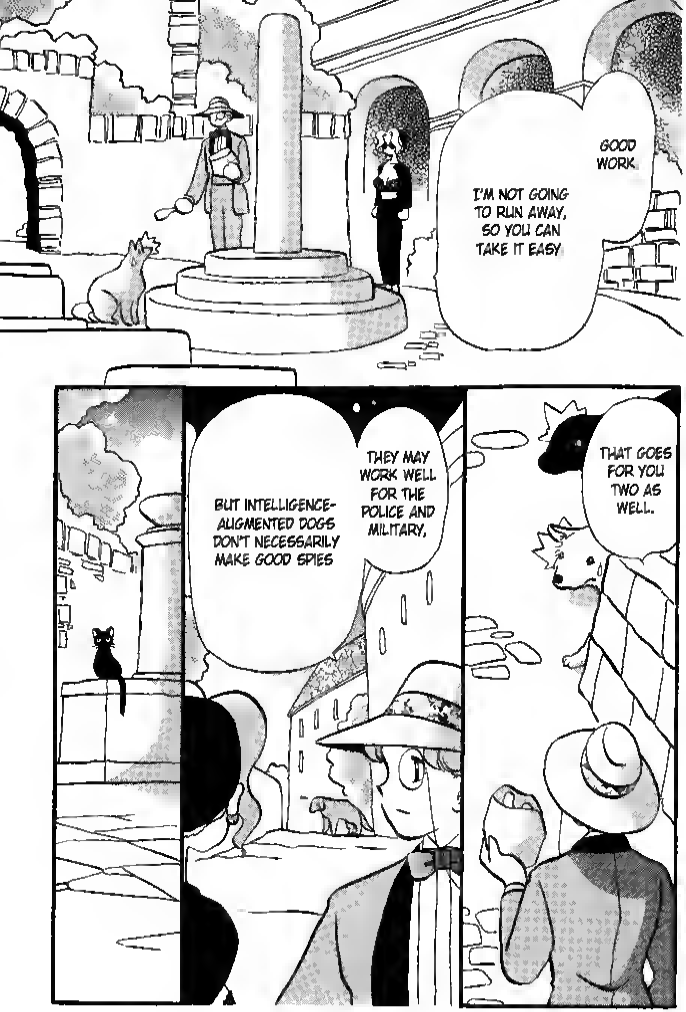
SOMEHOW I DOUBT THAT.
OKAY, WE'RE ALL SET.
OH? WELL, IF I'M NOT BACK IN TWO DAYS, SEND SOMEONE AFTER ME. I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU.
YES, IN ABOUT TWO DAYS.
WE'RE GOING ON A DATE. I'LL COME BACK AFTER THAT.
Well... ♁
What am I going to do?
UM-- BUT-- DOCTOR...
NOW, WHERE SHALL WE GO? ♡
You're heartless! ♁
Go on.
IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT.
Ernair

OHHH
WHAT IS IT?
JUST... ARE ALL
IT VARIES, DEPENDING ON THE DIVISION
LADY SPIES BEAUTIFUL?

I WAS STARTING TO THINK THEY MIGHT JUST BE A FICTION
I DIDN'T SEE ANY GIRLS AT THE IMPERIAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
YES, LADY SPIES HAVE TO BE BEAUTIFUL.

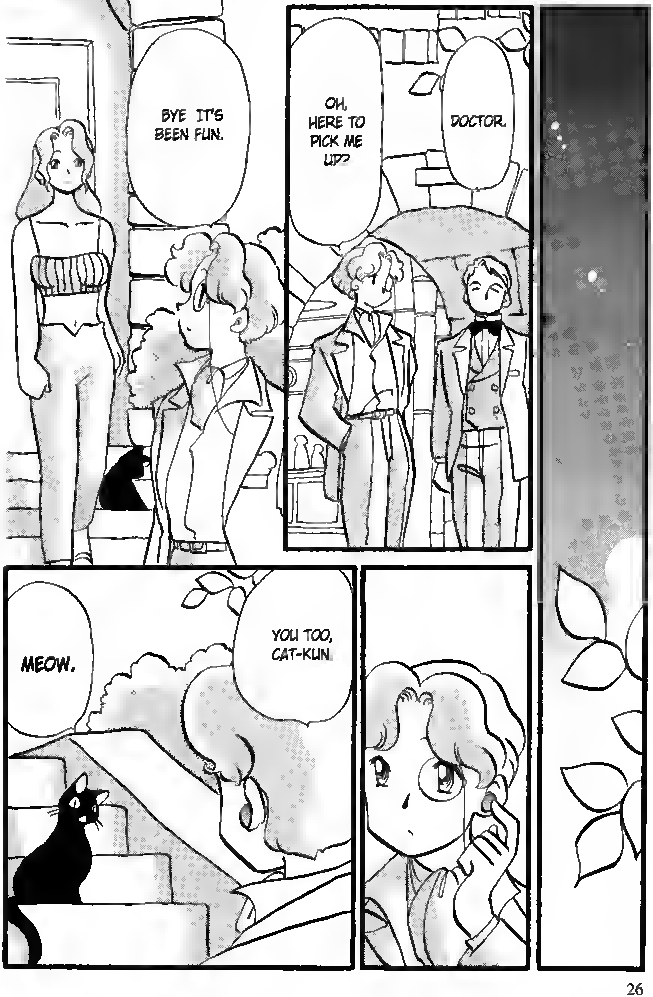
HOW DRAB THAT SORT OF SOCIETY IS SO DULL.
I had to go out to clubs to get what I was missing.
I DON'T THINK THEY PUT WOMEN OUT ON THE FRONT LINES MUCH, ASIDE FROM WHEN THEY NEED ONE TO SEDUCE SOMEONE
THEY'RE MALE CHAUVINISTS

OH, THREE OF THOSE FRIED MEAT STICKS.
THEY TRUST DOGS MORE THAN THEY TRUST GIRLS.


GOOD WORK.
I'M NOT GOING TO RUN AWAY, SO YOU CAN TAKE IT EASY.
THEY MAY WORK WELL FOR THE POLICE AND MILITARY,
BUT INTELLIGENCE-AUGMENTED DOGS DON'T NECESSARILY MAKE GOOD SPIES
THAT GOES FOR YOU TWO AS WELL.

AFTER ALL,
UNLIKE DOGS, EVEN INTELLIGENCE-AUGMENTED CATS CAN'T SWEAR OATHS.
It's not in their nature.
MROW.
CATS ARE MUCH BETTER SUITED FOR THAT.
MEOW.
I suppose so.
....WELL,

LET'S TALK ABOUT SOMETHING MORE ENRICHING INSTEAD ♡
That's more enriching?
DO YOU OFTEN DRESS UP AS A BUNNY?
I'M INTERESTED IN ANIMALS IN GENERAL TOO, NOT JUST DOGS.
YOU'RE NOT VERY GOOD WITH THE LADIES, ARE YOU?
You do? δ
I get that all the time.

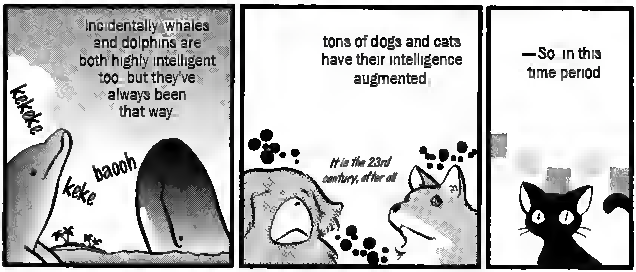

BYE IT'S BEEN FUN.
OH, HERE TO PICK ME UP?
DOCTOR.
MEOW.
YOU TOO, CAT-KUN.

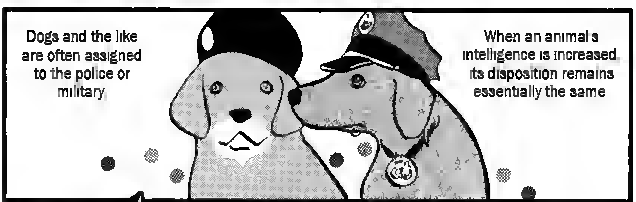
I thought so
OH, MY...
shwip shwip
YOU'RE WELCOME
T-T-T-T
OH!
WELL, THEN
BOOM
Rah
FWIP

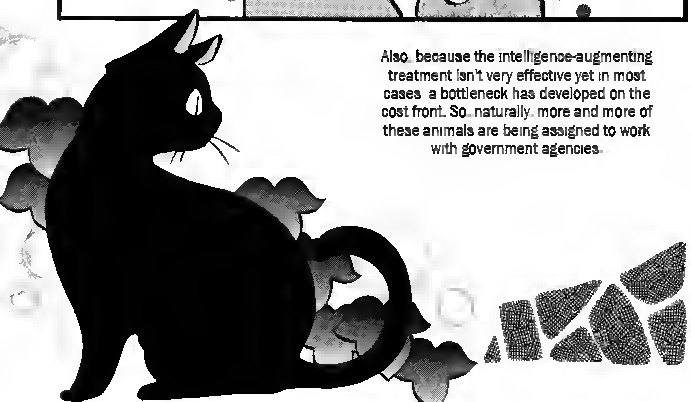
WOOF
SPIES SURE HAVE IT ROUGH
SHUT UP.
WHY DOES IT ALWAYS TURN INTO SUCH A BIG THING WHEN YOU'RE INVOLVED?
ZZZZZ
THE END

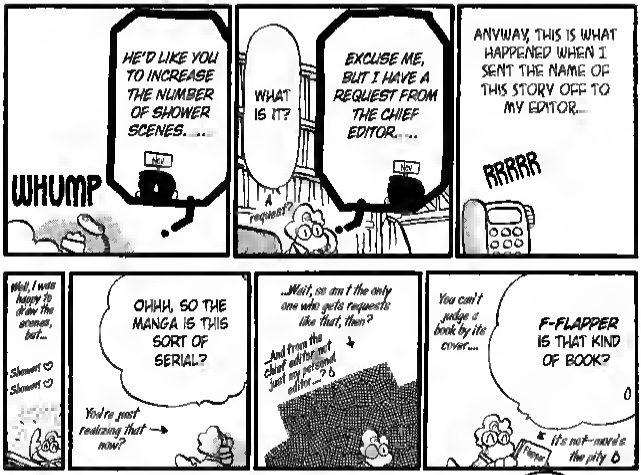
The Making of "Mission 7: Animal Spies"

August 2000 issue of *Comic Flapper*


Incidentally, whales and dolphins are both highly intelligent too, but they've always been that way.
kekeke
keke
baooh
tons of dogs and cats have their intelligence augmented
It is the 23rd century, after all
—So, in this time period


Dogs and the like are often assigned to the police or military
When an animal's intelligence is increased, its disposition remains essentially the same


Also, because the intelligence-augmenting treatment isn't very effective yet in most cases, a bottleneck has developed on the cost front. So, naturally, more and more of these animals are being assigned to work with government agencies.


WHUMP
HE'D LIKE YOU TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SHOWER SCENES....
NO!
WHAT IS IT?
A request?
EXCUSE ME, BUT I HAVE A REQUEST FROM THE CHIEF EDITOR....
NO!
ANYWAY, THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED WHEN I SENT THE NAME OF THIS STORY OFF TO MY EDITOR...
RRRRR
Well, I was happy to draw the shower, but...
Shower ♡
Shower ♡
OHHH, SO THE MANGA IS THIS SORT OF SERIAL?
You're just realizing that now? →
...Wait, so am I the only one who gets requests like that, then?
And from the chief editor, not just my personal editor...
You can't judge a book by its cover....
F-FLAPPER IS THAT KIND OF BOOK?
Flutter
It's not—aren't the pits

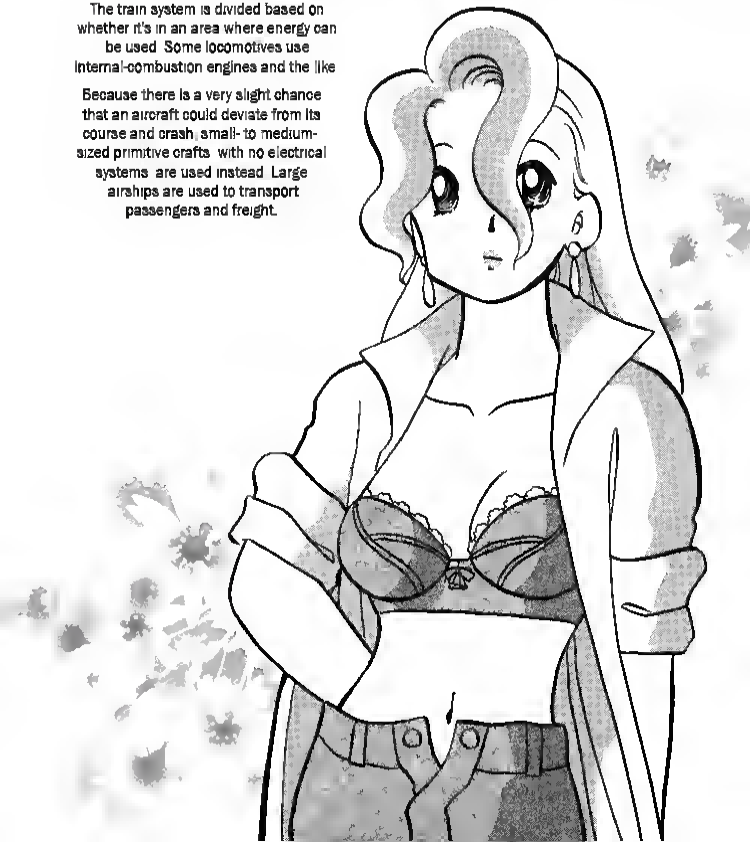
Erna's colleague. I like him quite a bit, but I haven't gotten a chance to use him again.
Torm Ertali
Nikett Pusellos
A dog psychologist. A citizen of the Traditional Earth Administration.

A Little Extra Guide to Lisbon

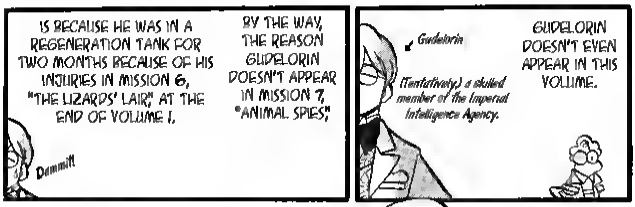
This was mentioned in the first volume, but Lisbon produces natural fuel crystals. Because of that, there are regions all around the planet where electricity can't be used. And the crystal deposits are concentrated around the equator, so the farther south you go, the less energy you can use. (The major continents are in the northern hemisphere.)

The train system is divided based on whether it's in an area where energy can be used. Some locomotives use internal-combustion engines and the like.

Because there is a very slight chance that an aircraft could deviate from its course and crash, small- to medium-sized primitive crafts with no electrical systems are used instead. Large airships are used to transport passengers and freight.



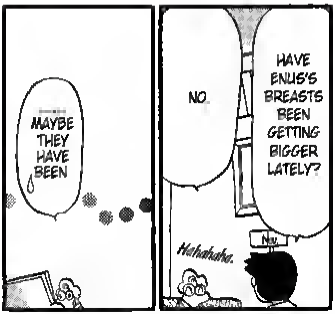
WHY WOULD THEY CARE ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
—WAIT,
FANS HAVE BEEN ASKING ABOUT RANKINGS IN THE IMPERIAL MILITARY--LIKE WHAT RANK GUDELORIN IS.
Nn
RRRRR


IS BECAUSE HE WAS IN A REGENERATION TANK FOR TWO MONTHS BECAUSE OF HIS INJURIES IN MISSION 6, "THE LIZARDS' LAIR," AT THE END OF VOLUME 1.
Dammit
BY THE WAY, THE REASON GUDELORIN DOESN'T APPEAR IN MISSION 7, "ANIMAL SPIES,"
Gudelorin
(Tentatively) a skilled member of the Imperial Intelligence Agency.
GUDELORIN DOESN'T EVEN APPEAR IN THIS VOLUME.

For external forces, ranks in the Imperial military are divided up much like any other country's: company officers, field officers, and general officers. However, they apparently use a special ranking system for their internal forces. Their military consists of a regular army, a space command, and an Imperial guard. The fifth and fifty-fifth corps of both the army and the space command are intelligence forces.

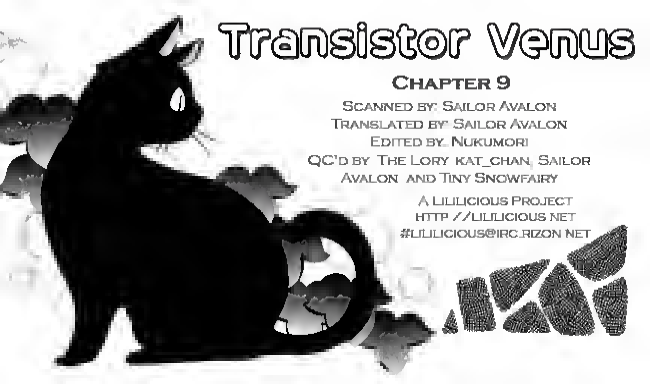
Incidentally, Gudelorin is a commissioned intelligence officer in the fifth corps of the space command--a captain.

ONCE I'VE DRAWN SOMETHING, I JUST WORK IT INTO THE PLAN
BUT SOMETIMES I IMPROVISE. A LOT.
Oh! I just—
I USUALLY PLAN THINGS OUT CAREFULLY BEFORE I START DRAWING,
It'll go like this, then like that
Hmm
—SO YOU'VE HAD THAT ALL PLANNED OUT FROM THE START?
No, I just made it up on the spot.
BUT IT'S HARD MAKING SURE EVERYTHING'S CONSISTENT AFTER THE FACT.
Incidentally, Enus is a commissioned intelligence officer—a first lieutenant.



BUT ANYWAY.....

When I draw, I tend to stress certain distinguishing features, without meaning to..... In Enus's case, her breasts?


Transistor Venus
Chapter 9
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Translated by: Sailor Avalon
Edited by: Nukumori
QC'd by: The Lory, kat_chan, Sailor Avalon and Tiny Snowfairy
A Lilicious Project
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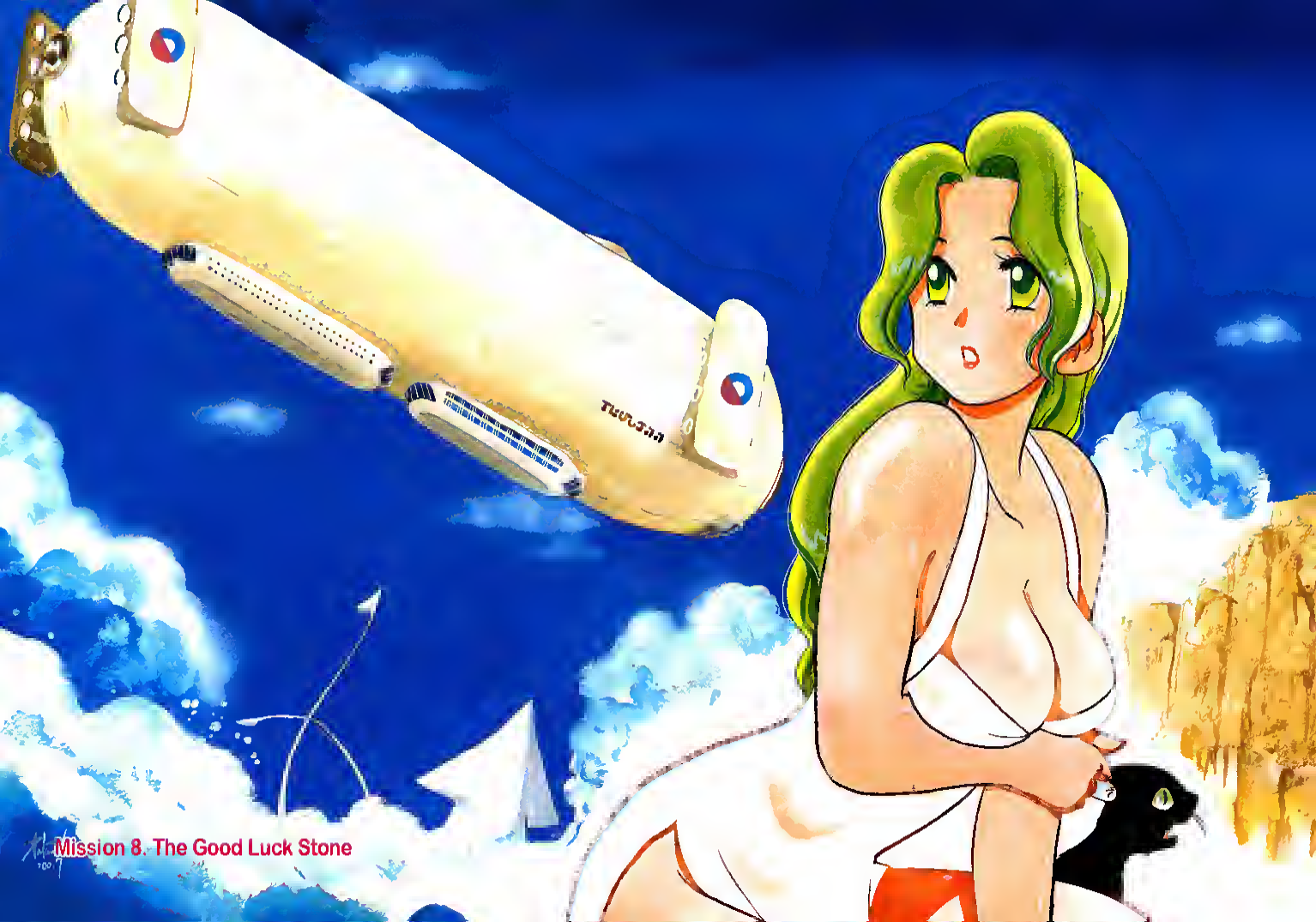
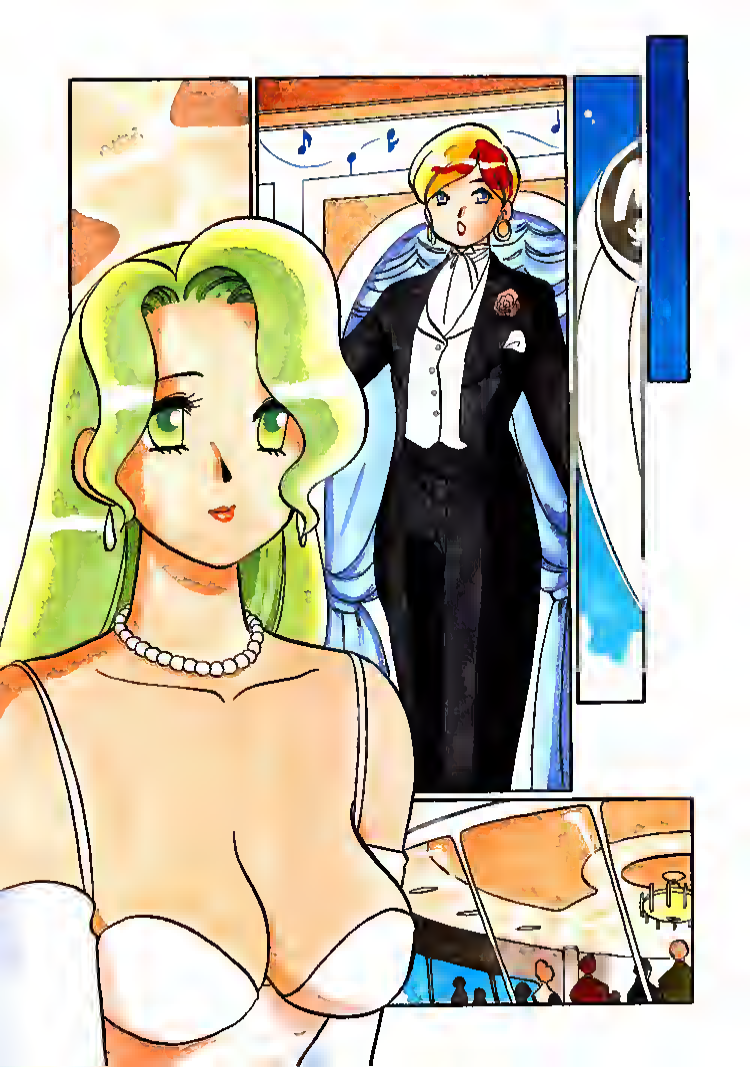
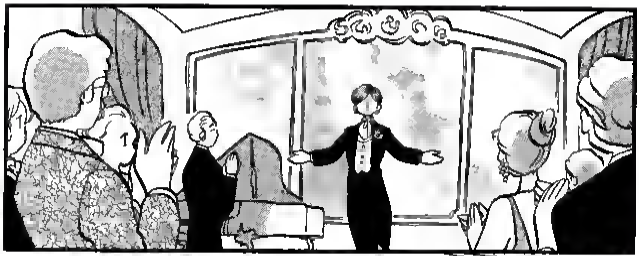
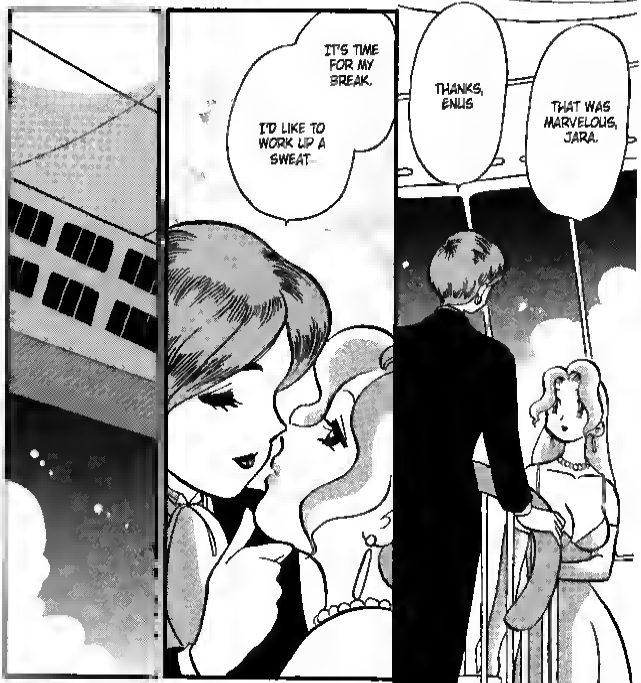
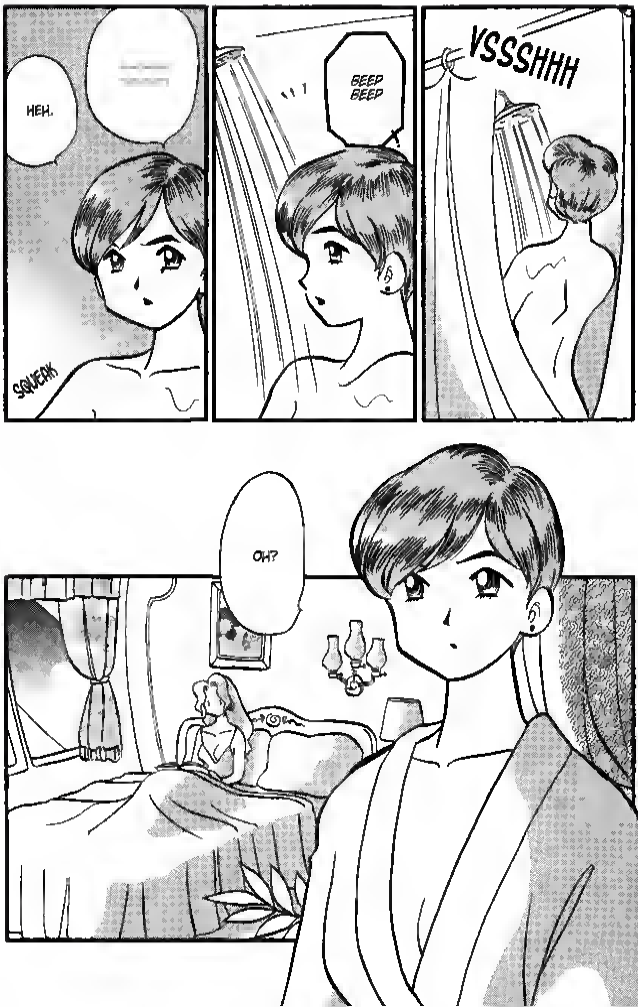
pant pant
SPLASH
VSSSHHH

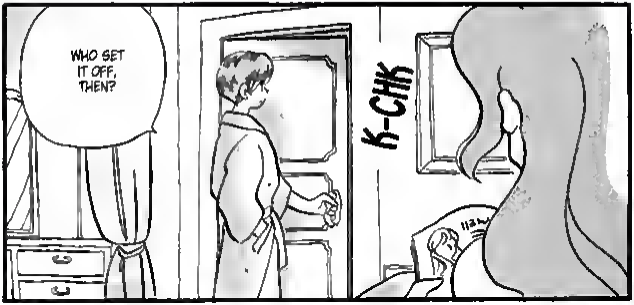

Mission 8. The Good Luck Stone

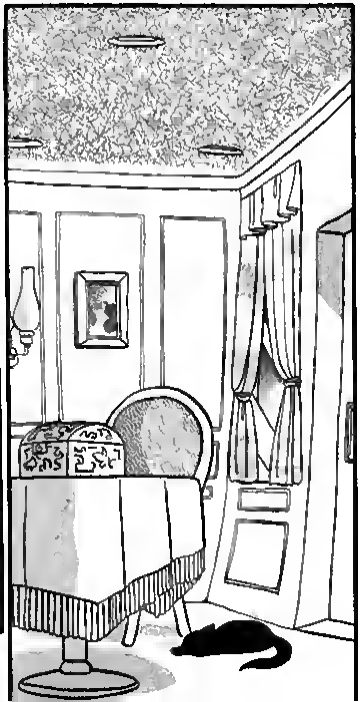


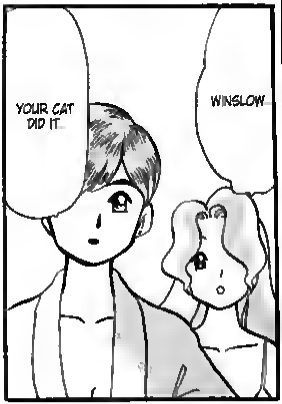


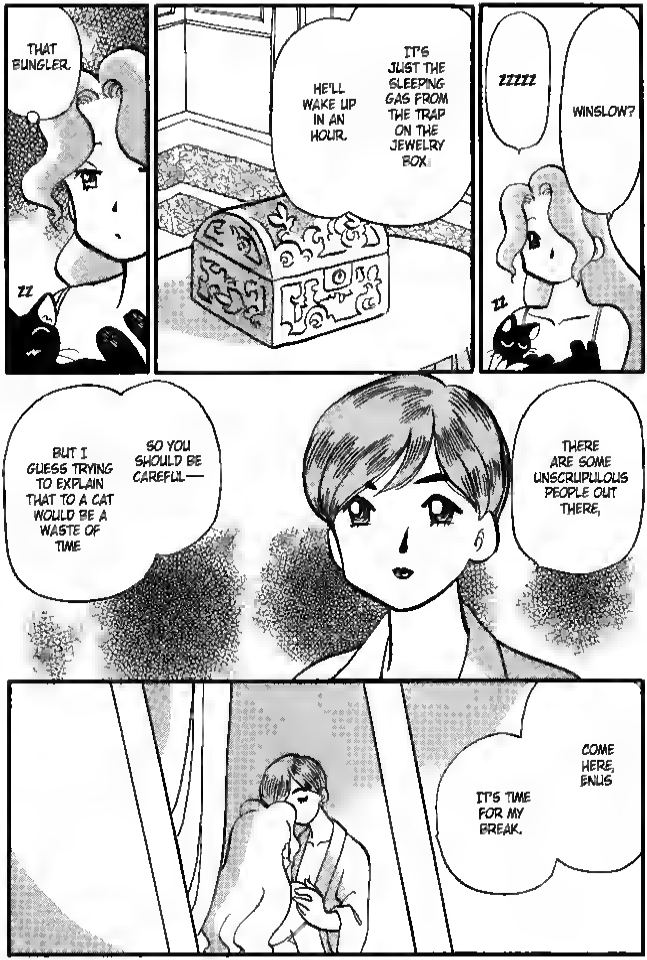

IT'S TIME FOR MY BREAK.
I'D LIKE TO WORK UP A SWEAT...
THANKS, ENLIS
THAT WAS MARVELOUS, JARA.


HEH.
SQUEAK
BEEP BEEP
VSSSHHH
OH?

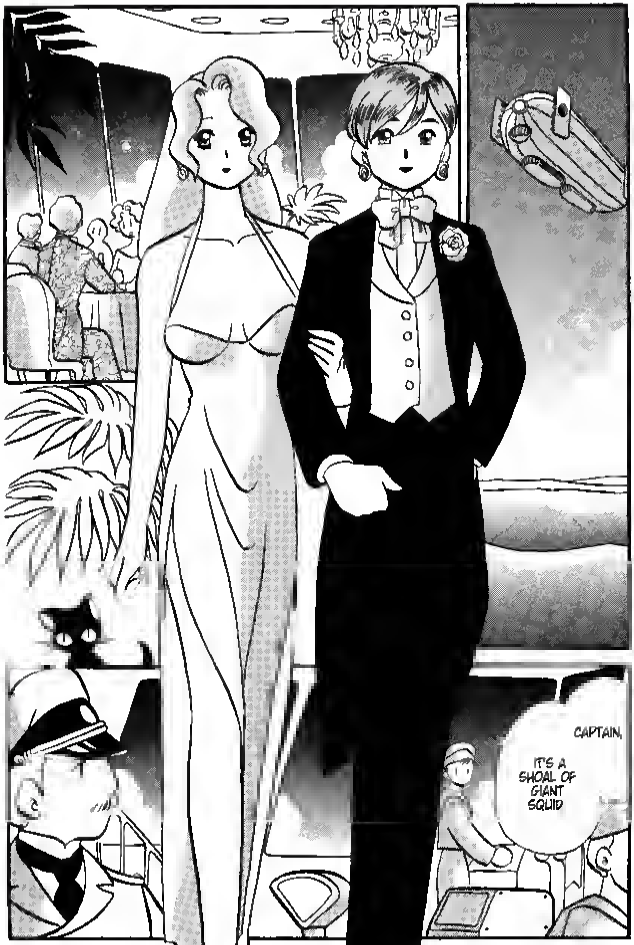

WHO SET IT OFF, THEN?
K-CHK
Ha~




YOUR CAT DID IT.
WINSLOW


THAT BUNGLER.
ZZ
HE'LL WAKE UP IN AN HOUR.
IT'S JUST THE SLEEPING GAS FROM THE TRAP ON THE JEWELRY BOX.
ZZZZZ
WINSLOW?
ZZ
BUT I GUESS TRYING TO EXPLAIN THAT TO A CAT WOULD BE A WASTE OF TIME
SO YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL—
THERE ARE SOME UNSCRUPULOUS PEOPLE OUT THERE,
COME HERE, ENUS
IT'S TIME FOR MY BREAK.

DO YOU EVER FEEL LIKE YOU WANT SOMEONE ELSE
TO TAKE THE LEAD?
WHAT,
ENUS?
UM—
JARA?
NO.
JUST ASKING


CAPTAIN,
IT'S A SHOAL OF GIANT SQUID

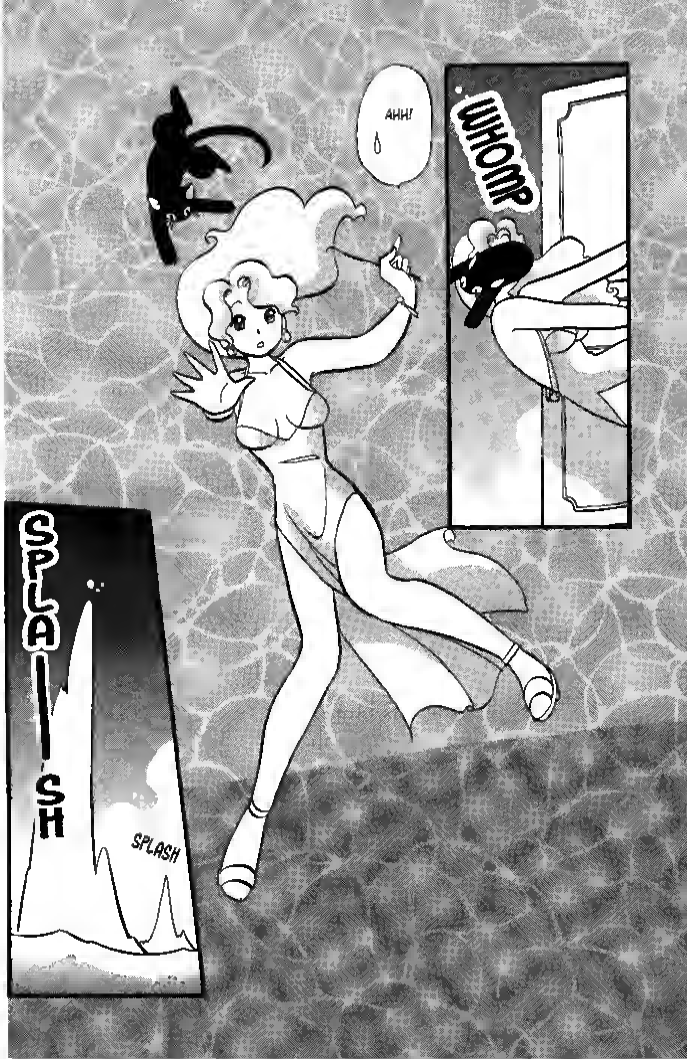
IF OUR HONORED GUESTS WOULD PLEASE TAKE A LOOK OUT THE WINDOW.
Decreasing altitude.
Altitude is 30.
CLANK CLANK
WELL, TAKE US DOWN.
OH, YOU DON'T SEE THAT EVERY DAY.
MY GOODNESS!
GIANT SQUID
OH, MY! WHAT ARE THOSE?

WHAT'S WRONG, JARA?
UGH
I CAN'T STAND OCTOPI OR SQUID OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
I feel all icky now.
SORRY, ENUS,
BUT WOULD YOU MIND GETTING ME SOME AIRSICKNESS MEDICINE FROM THE ROOM?
It's on the shelf in the bathroom
SURE
OH,
AND

YES.
I SUGGEST YOU STAY AWAY FROM THE JEWELRY BOX.
THERE WILL BE CONSEQUENCES IF YOU TOUCH IT.
KYU-KIK

MROOOW.
YOU FELL PREY TO THIS, WINSLOW?
LOOKS LIKE IT'S A SIMPLE SPRING-LOADED TRAP.
Piece of cake
SHAKE

CLUNK
TMP
TMP
OH
Uh-oh.

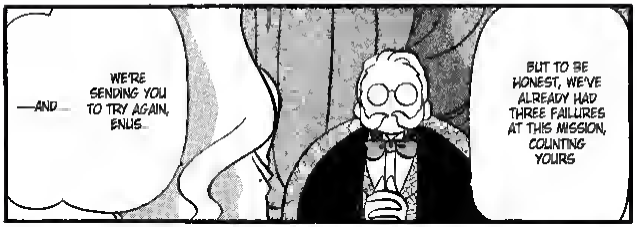

AHH!
WHOMP
SPLA—SH
SPLASH

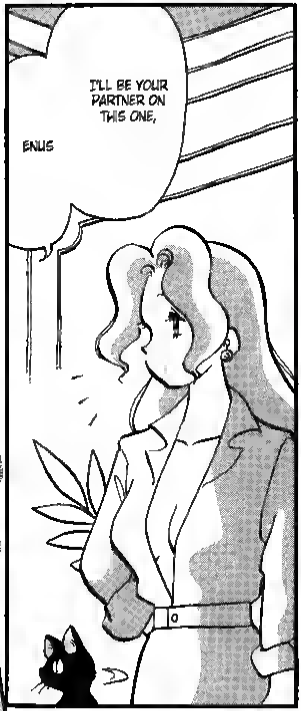
I DIDN'T THINK YOUR MISSION WAS THAT DIFFICULT.
YES, WELL...

Bielaha Jara,
a singer who's a regular on the passenger ship Carcaday.

WE JUST NEED YOU TO GET AHOLD OF THE DOCUMENTS SHE'S TRANSPORTING.
Yes, well...

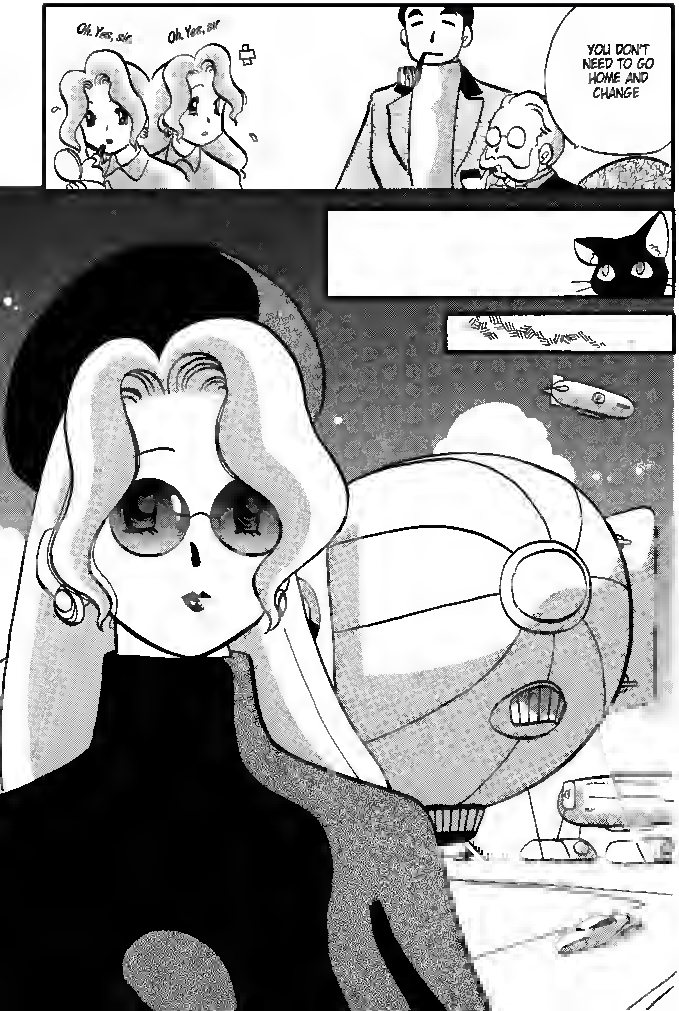
SHE'S SERVING AS A COURIER FOR THE FEDERATION.
is also—


BUT TO BE HONEST, WE'VE ALREADY HAD THREE FAILURES AT THIS MISSION, COUNTING YOURS
WE'RE SENDING YOU TO TRY AGAIN, ENUS...
—AND...


I'LL BE YOUR PARTNER ON THIS ONE, ENUS

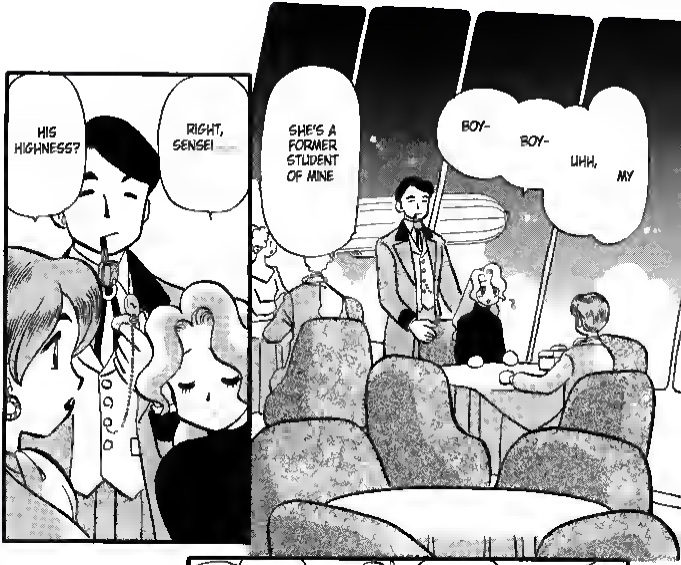
LONG TIME NO SEE

dizzy
SMACK!
YOUR HIGHNESS.
AT EASE, ENUS.
RUMBLE
Yessir.
U-UM, COLONEL,
I FORGOT SOMETHING IN MY APARTMENT.


Oh, Yes, sir.
Oh, Yes, sir.
YOU DON'T NEED TO GO HOME AND CHANGE

I WAS WONDERING WHERE YOU'D GOTTEN OFF TO
OH, ENLIS?
HUH? WHAT?
Uhhh.
WHAT THE ..?
YOU FELL OUT OF THE AIRSHIP?

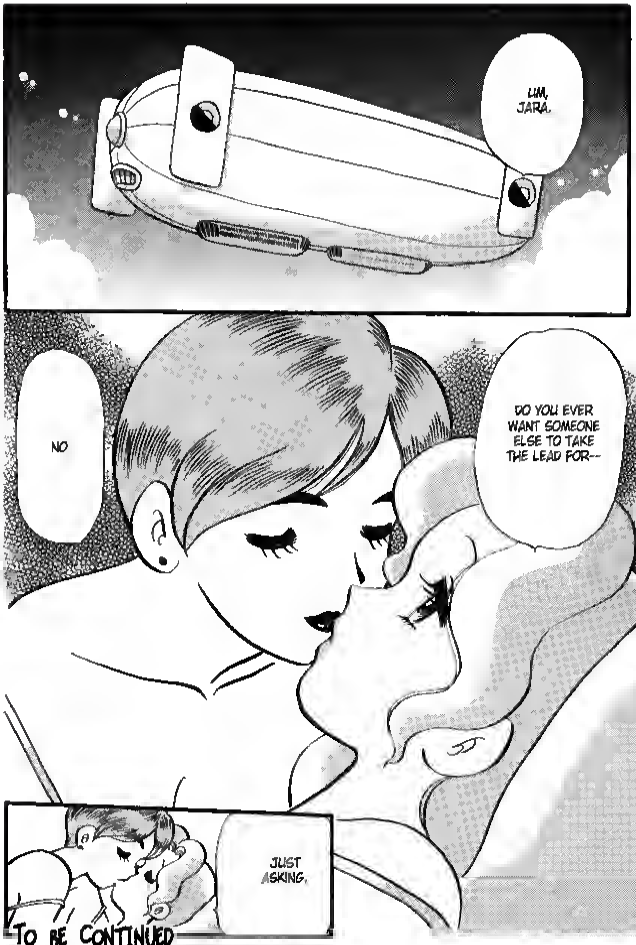
WELL, ALL RIGHT
YES.
YOU TAMPERED WITH THE JEWELRY BOX, DIDN'T YOU?
Once you told me not to, I couldn't help it.
OH
WHO ARE YOU?
HIS HIGHNESS ROMALY ANAS HSE,
HER BOYFRIEND?


HIS HIGHNESS?
RIGHT, SENSEI
SHE'S A FORMER STUDENT OF MINE
BOY-
BOY-
UHH, MY

I'M A PRINCE-- FOR THE MOMENT
THOUGH I'M THE YOUNGEST OF FOUR BROTHERS
WELL, IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU
I'M BIELAHA JARA.

SNAP

MUST'VE BEEN DEFECTIVE
AND I JUST BOUGHT IT...
OH, DEAR.
FALLING APART
OH!
LHMM...
UH,
I'M IN A SINGLE ON THIS FLIGHT.
THIS WORKED OUT PERFECTLY, ENUS.
I'm in a single, too
YES
I'M GOING TO KICK BACK AND RELAX.


UM, JARA.
DO YOU EVER WANT SOMEONE ELSE TO TAKE THE LEAD FOR--
NO
JUST ASKING.
TO BE CONTINUED

Transistor Venus

Chapter 10

Scanned by Sailor Avalon
Translated by Sailor Avalon
Edited by Nukumori
QC'd by: The Lory, kat_chan, Sailor Avalon, and
Tiny Snowfairy

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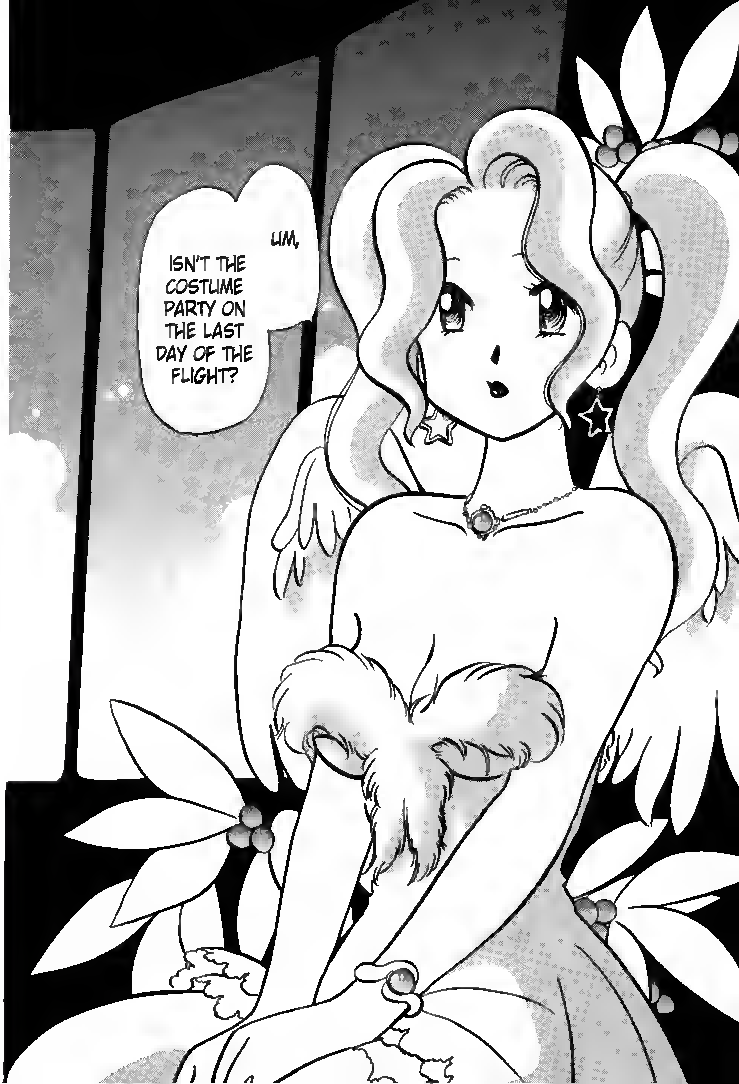
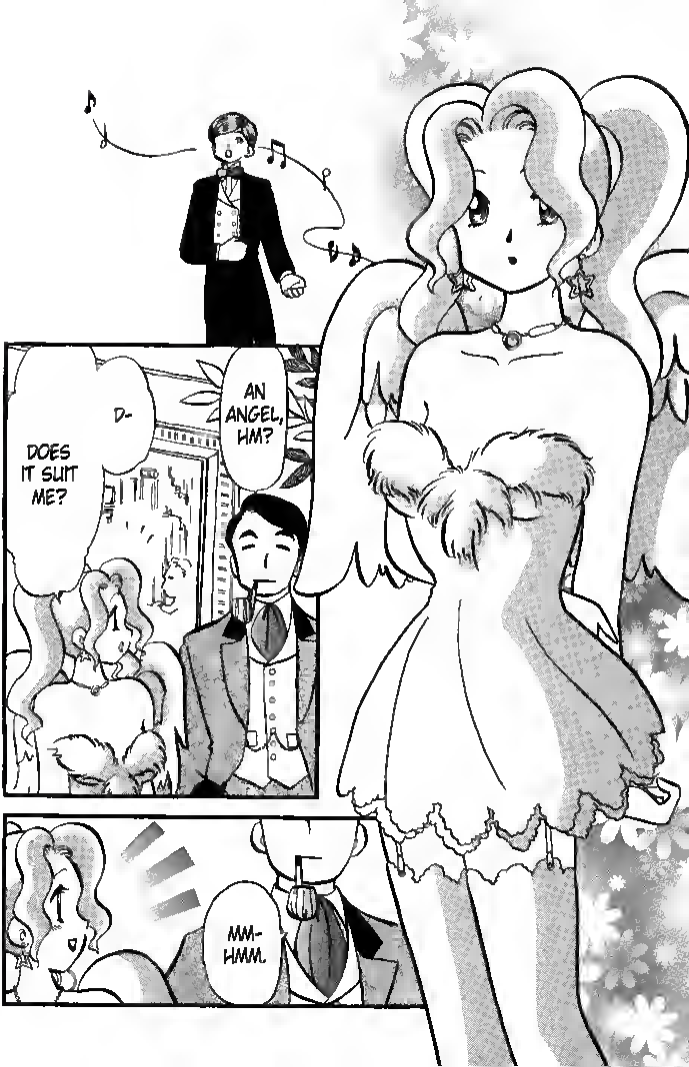
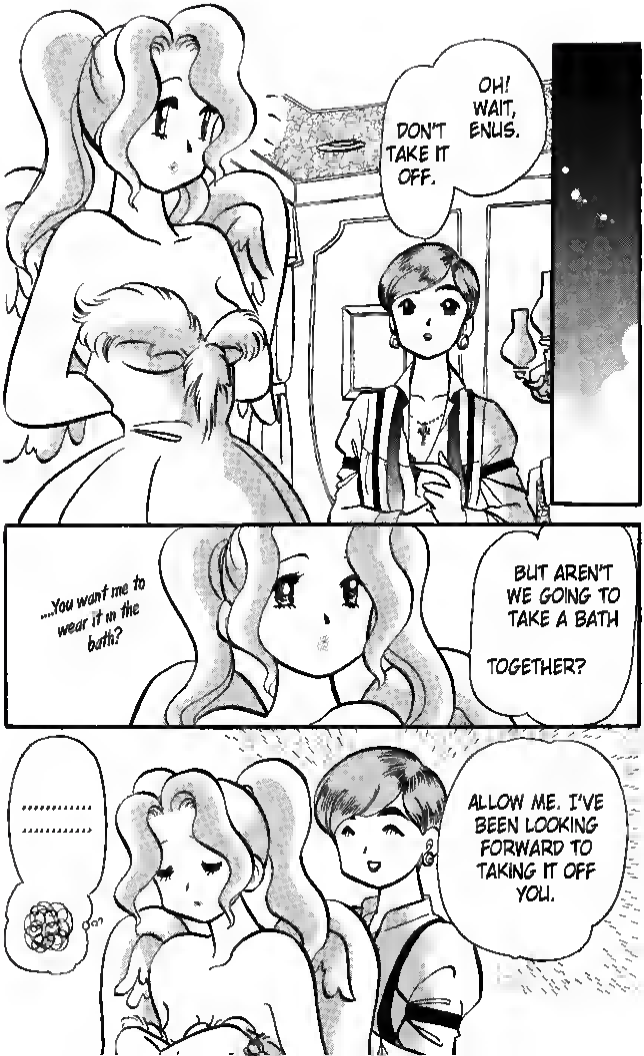
OKAY!
YOU LOOK LOVELY, ENUS


UM,
ISN'T THE COSTUME PARTY ON THE LAST DAY OF THE FLIGHT?

I JUST WANTED YOU TO WEAR THIS TODAY.
OH! IT IS, DON'T WORRY.

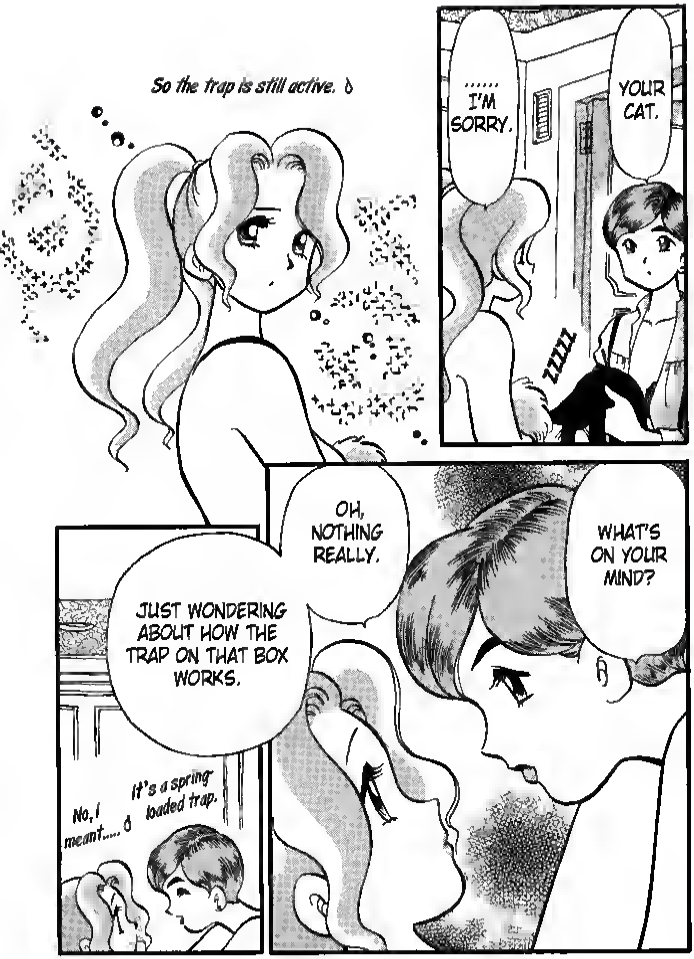

AN ANGEL, HM?
D-
DOES IT SUIT ME?
MM-HMM.

THE COSTUME PARTY ISN'T UNTIL THE LAST DAY OF THE FLIGHT, THOUGH.
THIS FLIGHT IS A WEEK LONG.
I'LL GIVE YOU FIRST CRACK AT THE MISSION,
BUT IF YOU CAN'T HANDLE IT, I'LL ——
SNAP
OH.


OH! WAIT, ENUS.
DON'T TAKE IT OFF.
BUT AREN'T WE GOING TO TAKE A BATH TOGETHER?
...You want me to wear it in the bath?
ALLOW ME. I'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO TAKING IT OFF YOU.
.....
.....

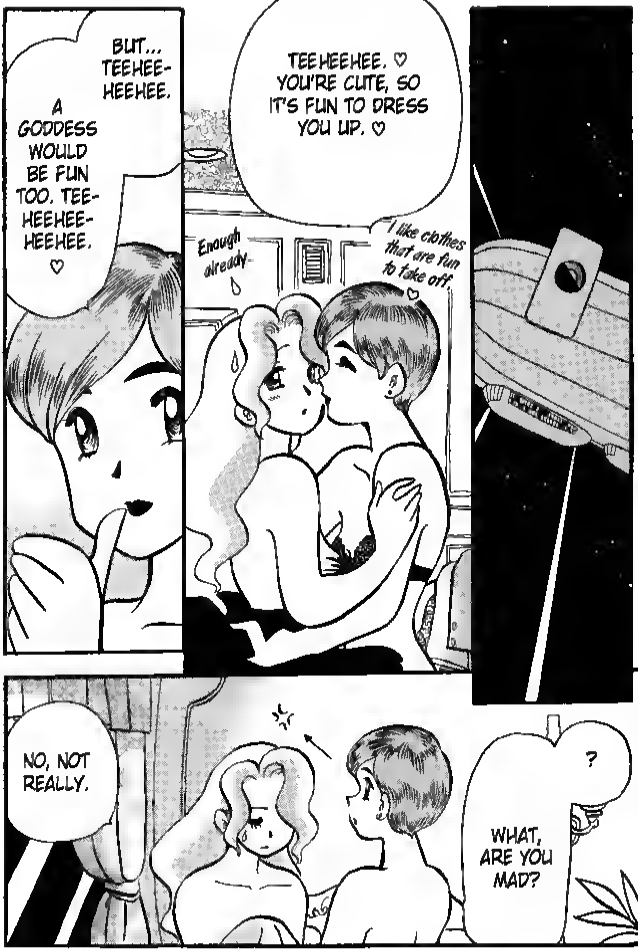
OH, I'M SORRY.
OH!
OW!
POP
Huh?

What?
Nothing...
POP
toss toss
OH.
TMP
What about the trap?
PSHH
CLICK
MEOW!


So the trap is still active.
YOUR CAT.
I'M SORRY.
WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
OH, NOTHING REALLY.
JUST WONDERING ABOUT HOW THE TRAP ON THAT BOX WORKS.
It's a spring loaded trap.
No, I meant....

OH, NOW YOU'RE A DEVIL?
—THEN NEXT UP WILL BE

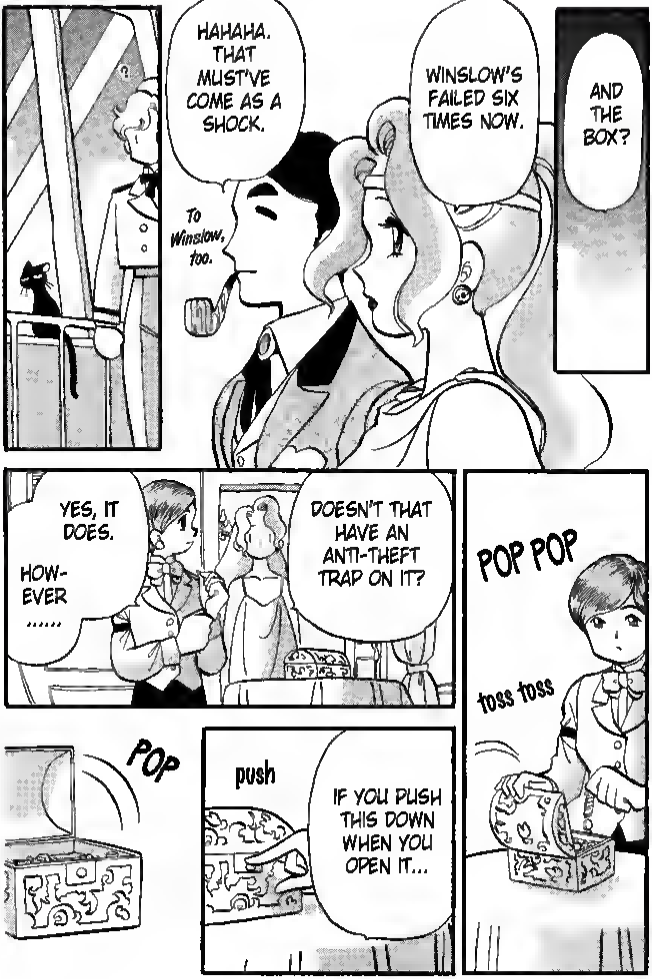
A GODDESS. HAHAHAHA.
YOU HAVE SOME-THING AGAINST THEM?
NO, NOT REALLY.
.....
OH!
"VENUS," FROM "ENUS"?
ENUS
VENUS

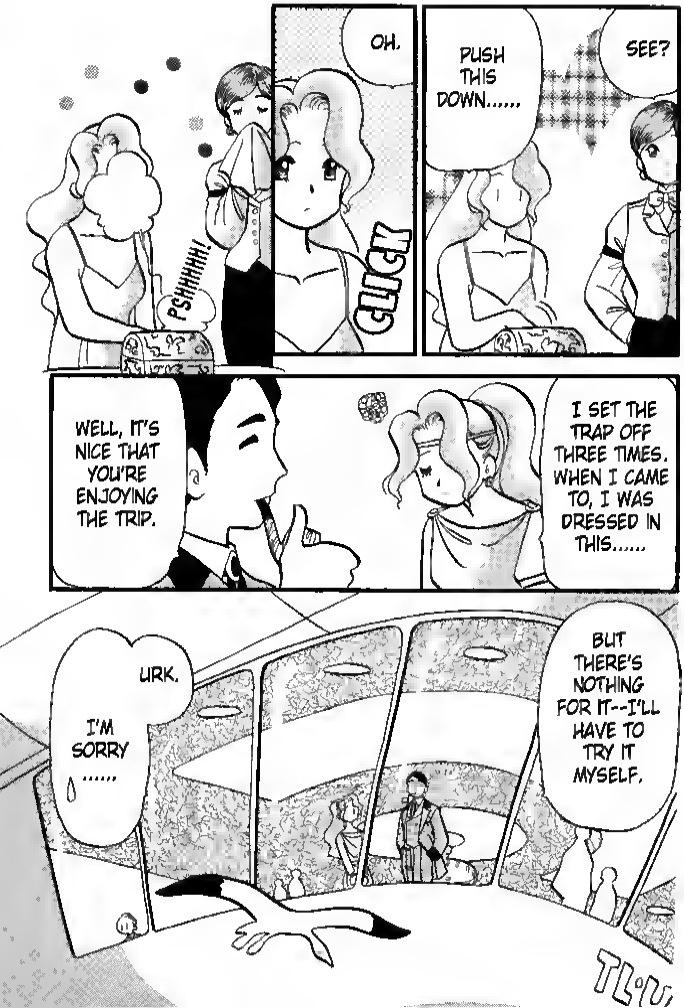

BUT... TEEHEE-HEEHEE.
A GODDESS WOULD BE FUN TOO. TEE-HEEHEE-HEEHEE. ♡
TEEHEEHEE. ♡ YOU'RE CUTE, SO IT'S FUN TO DRESS YOU UP. ♡
Enough already.
I like clothes that are fun to take off. ♡
NO, NOT REALLY.
WHAT, ARE YOU MAD?
?

HEY, ENUS,
THAT PRINCE ROMALY —
HUH?!
WHAT'S YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM?
N-NO, UH...
HE'S NOT YOUR BOYFRIEND, RIGHT?
UHHH.
YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH HIM?
UHHHHH.
BUT HE DOESN'T SEE YOU THAT WAY?
UHHH-HHHH.

sob sob
YOU'RE SO CUTE WHEN YOU'RE IN EMOTIONAL ANGUISH.
OH.
OH?
OW!
Mm
DON'T WORRY. DON'T WORRY.

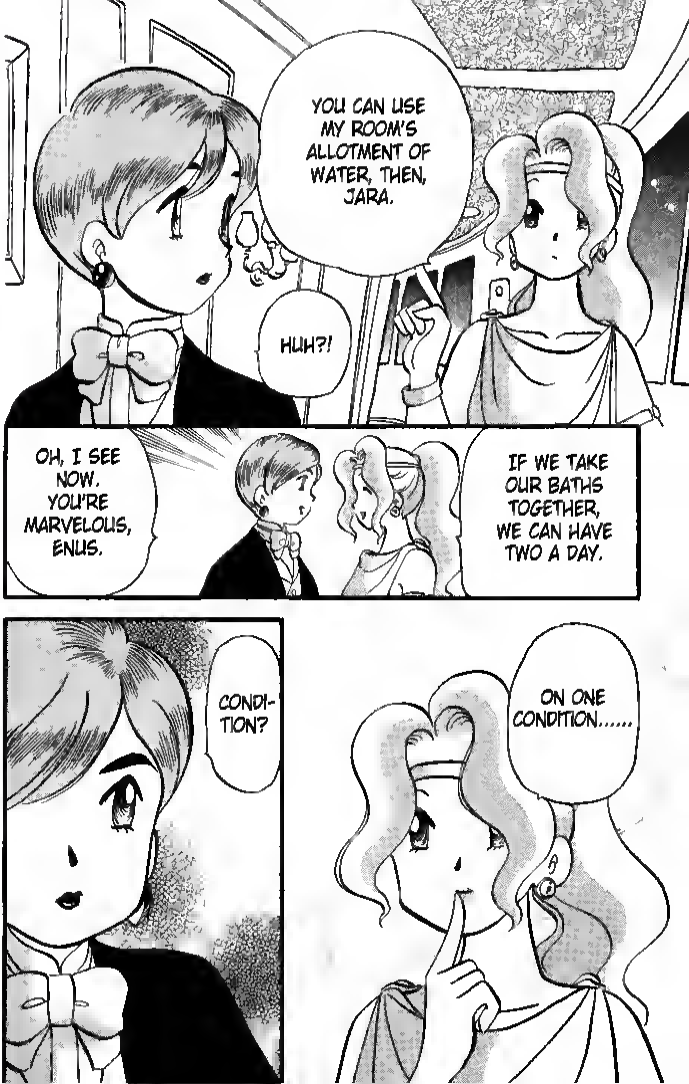
WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
IT IS A GODDESS!
I thought it would be sexier.
Hi'm sorry.

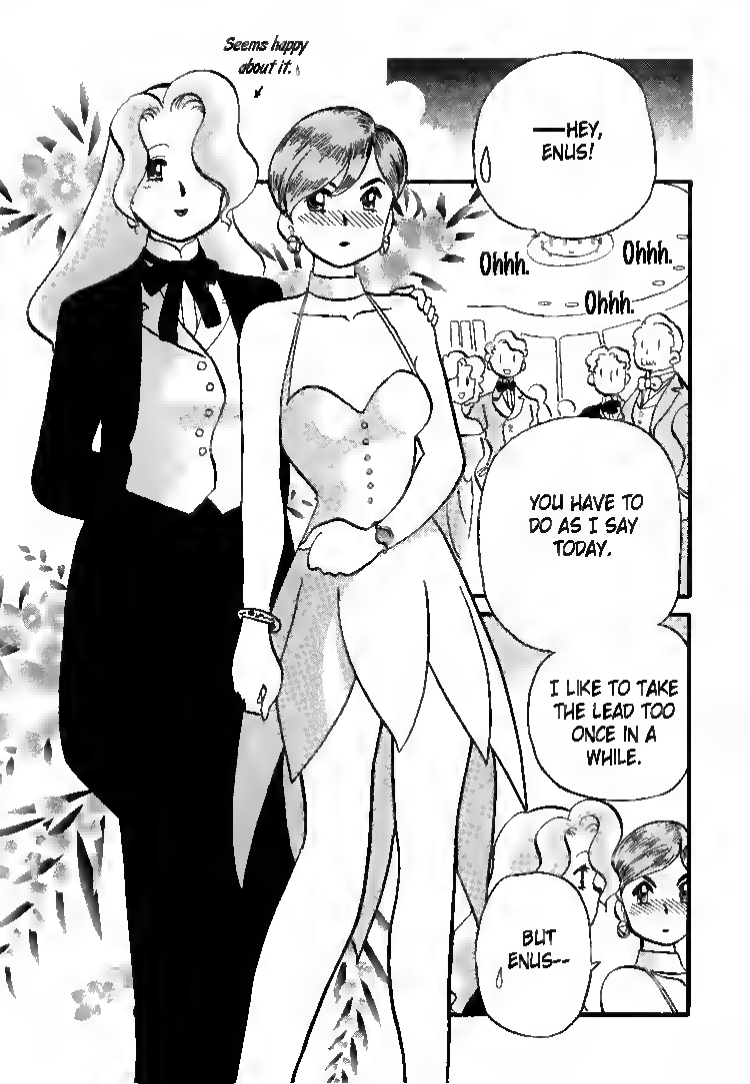

AND THE BOX?
WINSLOW'S FAILED SIX TIMES NOW.
HAHAHA. THAT MUST'VE COME AS A SHOCK.
To Winslow, too.
DOESN'T THAT HAVE AN ANTI-THEFT TRAP ON IT?
YES, IT DOES.
HOW-EVER .....
POP POP
toss toss
IF YOU PUSH THIS DOWN WHEN YOU OPEN IT...
push
POP


OH.
SEE?
PUSH THIS DOWN.....
CLICK
PSHHHH!
I SET THE TRAP OFF THREE TIMES. WHEN I CAME TO, I WAS DRESSED IN THIS.....
WELL, IT'S NICE THAT YOU'RE ENJOYING THE TRIP.
BUT THERE'S NOTHING FOR IT--I'LL HAVE TO TRY IT MYSELF.
URK.
I'M SORRY .....
TL

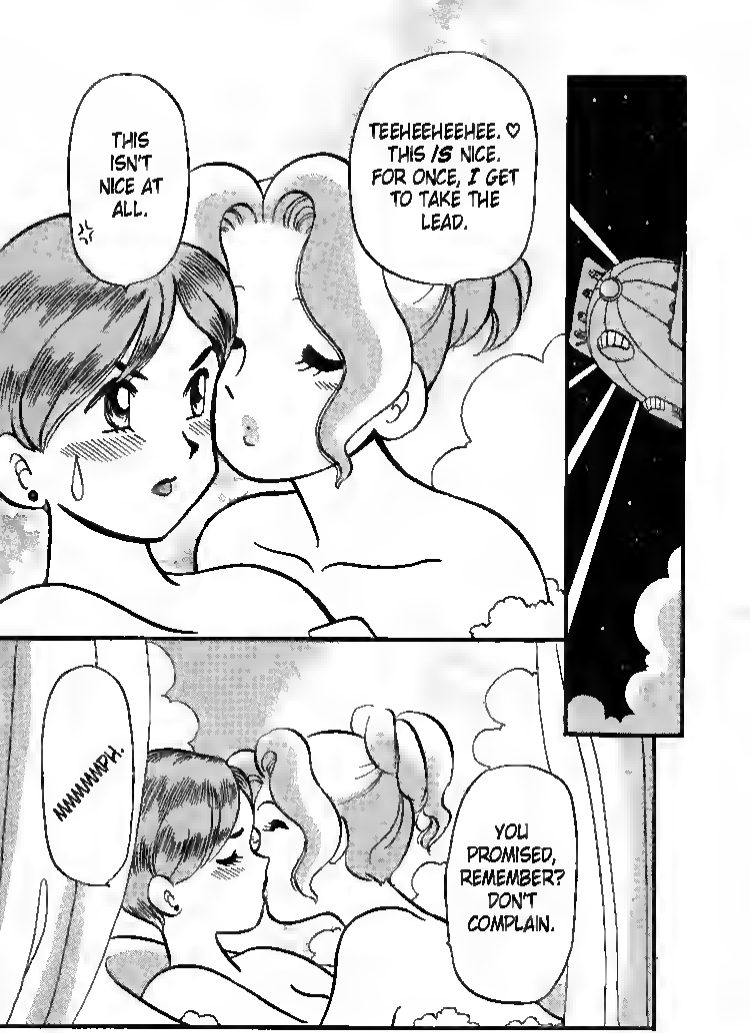
I set it off every time....
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING FUNNY GOING ON. IT REALLY IS JUST A SIMPLE SPRING-LOADED TRAP, AND YET.....
BUT—
MY APOLOGIES, MISS BIELAWA.
WE'RE ASKING THE SAME OF THE PASSENGERS.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
HMM.

WE HAD SOME TROUBLE WITH THE BALLAST TANK, SO WE NEED TO CONSERVE THE WATER IN THE REGULAR TANK.
BUT STILL, ONLY ONE BATH A DAY?
Ejected
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY.
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME.
DOES HE WANT ME TO BE DRENCHED IN SWEAT WHEN I GET UP IN FRONT OF THE PASSENGERS?
THAT MIGHT BE FINE FOR OTHER PEOPLE, BUT IT WON'T FLY WITH ME.
BATHS ARE MY FAVORITE THING IN THE WORLD.

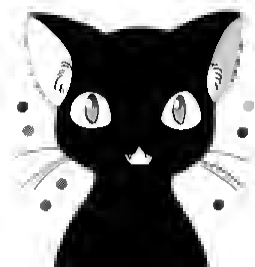

YOU CAN USE MY ROOM'S ALLOTMENT OF WATER, THEN, JARA.
HUH?!
IF WE TAKE OUR BATHS TOGETHER, WE CAN HAVE TWO A DAY.
OH, I SEE NOW. YOU'RE MARVELOUS, ENUS.
ON ONE CONDITION.....
CONDI-TION?


Seems happy about it.
—HEY, ENUS!
Ohhh.
Ohhh.
Ohhh.
YOU HAVE TO DO AS I SAY TODAY.
I LIKE TO TAKE THE LEAD TOO ONCE IN A WHILE.
BUT ENUS--

Mmph.
NO BUTS.
UH.
Well, this is nice too, but...
clap
clap
clap
clap
clap


THIS ISN'T NICE AT ALL.
TEEHEEHEEHEE. ♡ THIS IS NICE. FOR ONCE, I GET TO TAKE THE LEAD.
MMMMMPH.
YOU PROMISED, REMEMBER? DON'T COMPLAIN.

beep
beep
BOOOOM
TO BE CONTINUED



Transistor Venus

Chapter 11

Scanned by: Sailor Avalon
Translated by: Sailor Avalon
Edited by: Nukumori
QC'd by: The Lory, kat_chan, Sailor Avalon, and
Tiny Snowfairy

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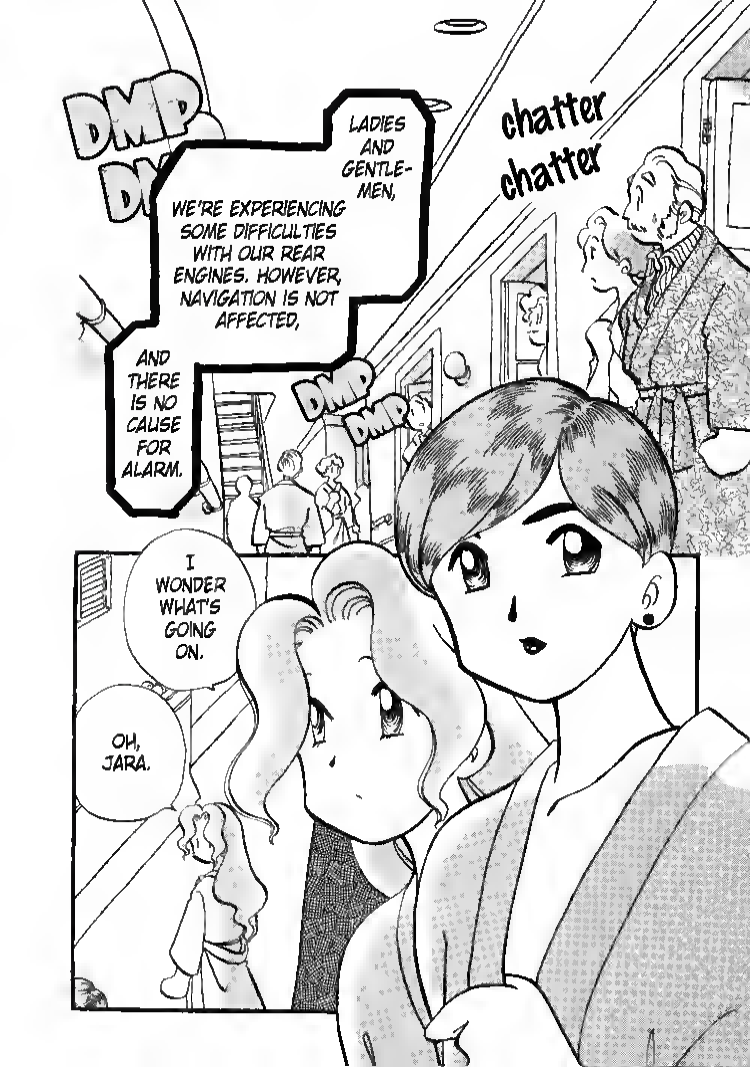
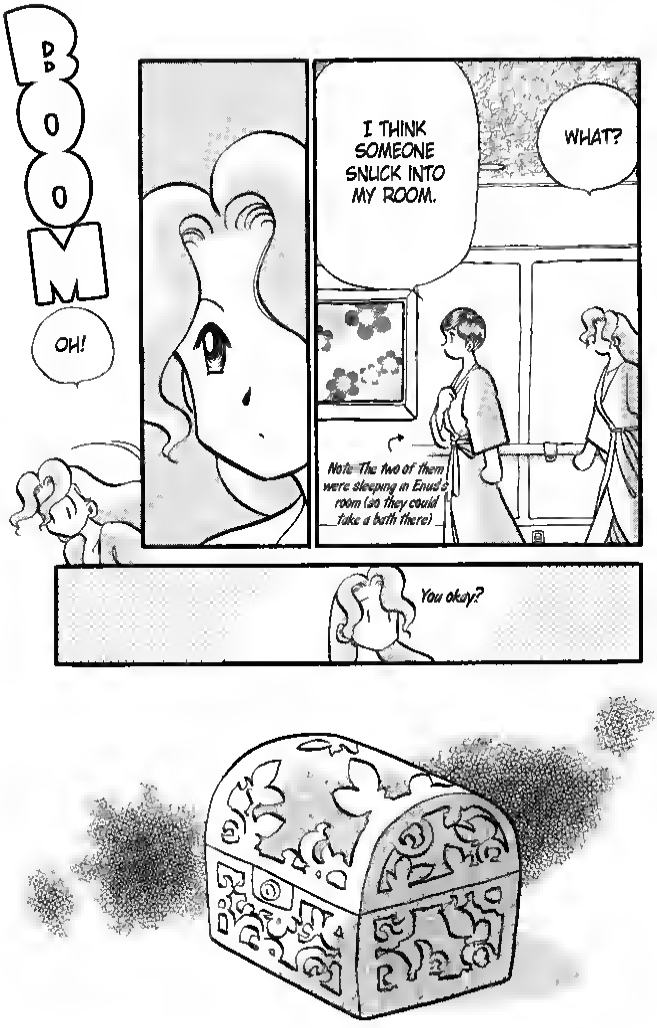
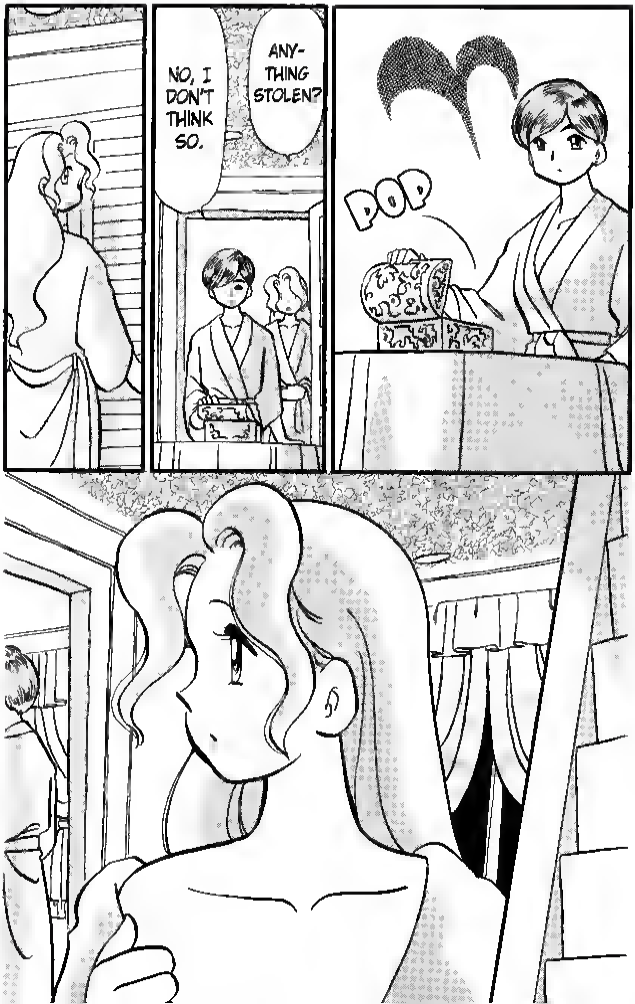
THE THIRTEENTH ENGINE EXPLODED.
KWOOH
ENGINE ROOM, WHAT'S GOING ON?
THE FOURTEENTH APPEARS TO BE DAMAGED AS WELL.
CUT OFF THE FUEL LINE.
ANY OTHER DAMAGE?

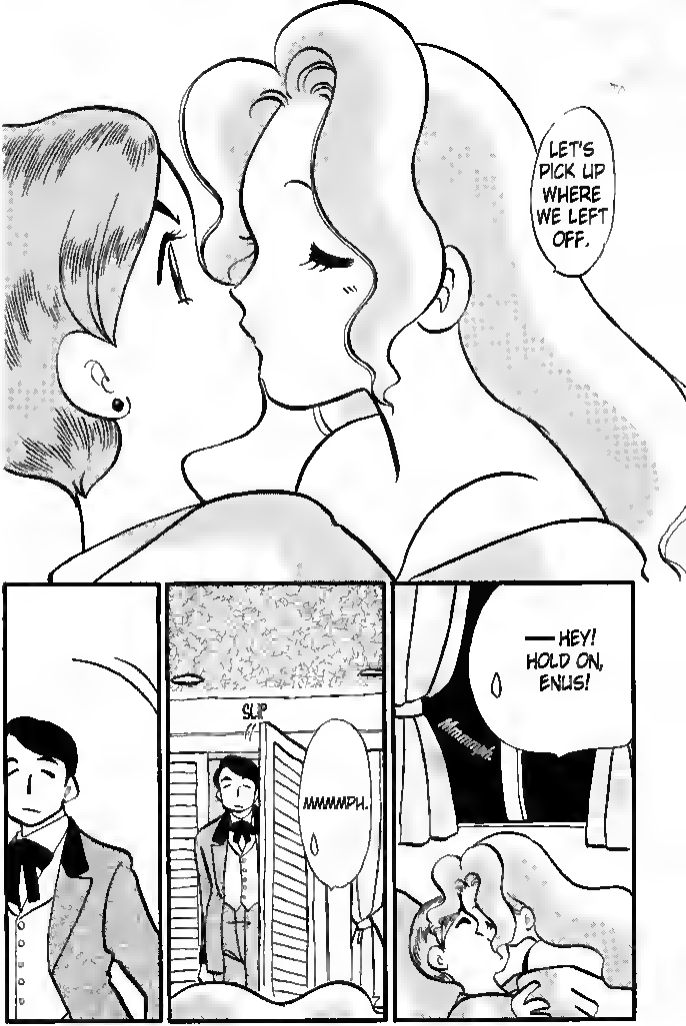
Mission 8. The Good Luck Stone, Continued Again


DMP
DMP
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
WE'RE EXPERIENCING SOME DIFFICULTIES WITH OUR REAR ENGINES. HOWEVER, NAVIGATION IS NOT AFFECTED,
AND THERE IS NO CAUSE FOR ALARM.
chatter chatter
DMP DMP
I WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON.
OH, JARA.

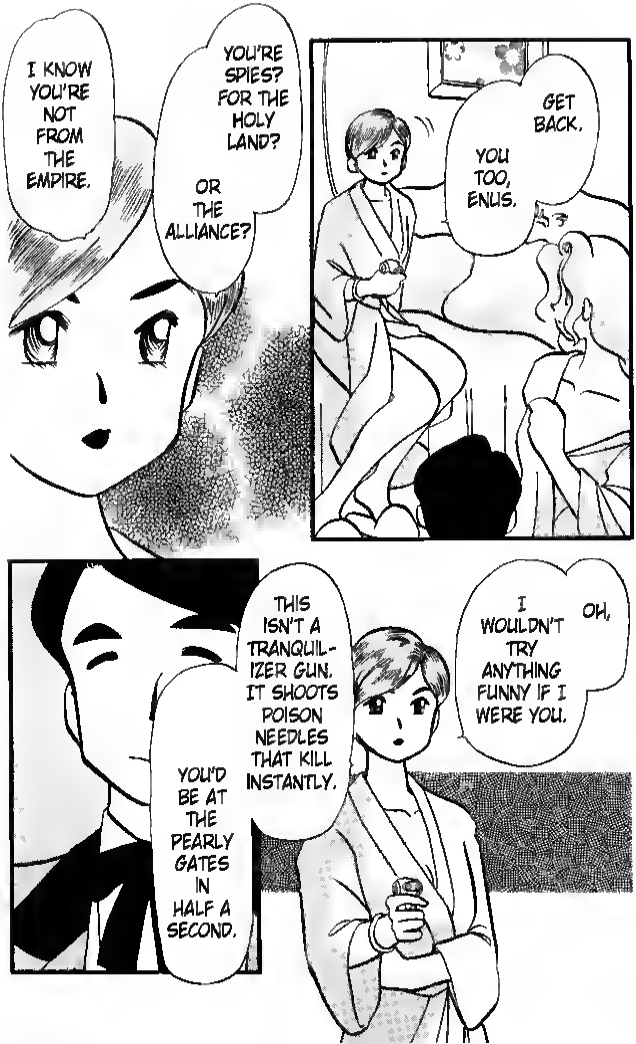

BOOM
OH!
I THINK SOMEONE SNUCK INTO MY ROOM.
WHAT?
Note: The two of them were sleeping in Enud's room (so they could take a bath there)
You okay?


POP
ANY-THING STOLEN?
NO, I DON'T THINK SO.

JARA.
WHAT?
TMP


LET'S PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF.
SLIP
MMMMPH.
—HEY! HOLD ON, ENUS!
Mmmmph.

HUH?
GET OFF.
OKAY, THAT'S ENOUGH, ENUS.
OH.

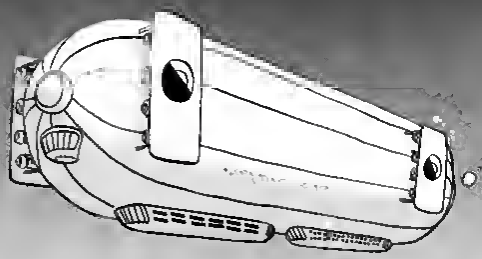

I KNOW YOU'RE NOT FROM THE EMPIRE.
YOU'RE SPIES? FOR THE HOLY LAND?
OR THE ALLIANCE?
GET BACK.
YOU TOO, ENUS.
OH, I WOULDN'T TRY ANYTHING FUNNY IF I WERE YOU.
THIS ISN'T A TRANQUIL-IZER GUN. IT SHOOTS POISON NEEDLES THAT KILL INSTANTLY.
YOU'D BE AT THE PEARLY GATES IN HALF A SECOND.

DASH
OH!
PSHOO
PSHOO
YOUR HIGHNESS!
I'M FINE.
OH, THERE'S A HOLE IN MY JACKET.
My wallet, too.

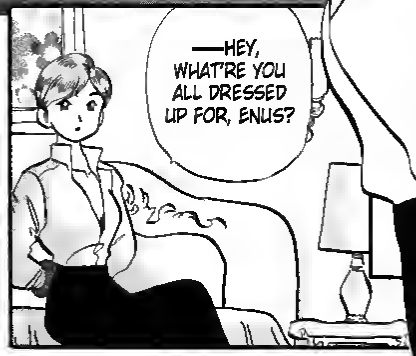
Enus has a special power: she's always able to avoid fatalities.
But please be careful.
Not while you're around.
LETHAL WEAPONS DON'T WORK.
Ohmm.
WELL, NOW THE PROBLEM IS...
What does that mean?
BOOM

DMP
DMP
DMP
DMP
DMP
DID YOU CAUSE THAT ACCIDENT BEFORE TOO, YOUR HIGHNESS?
WE CAN'T REALLY CONTROL THE POWER.
OH! DON'T TELL ME THE TROUBLE WITH THE WATER TANK WAS BECAUSE OF YOU, TOO!
YOU HAVE PARANORMAL ABILITIES?
My baths! My baths..!
Huh? Oh, Your Highness?
I'm going to go take a nap.

Mission 8. The Good Luck Stone, Continued Again



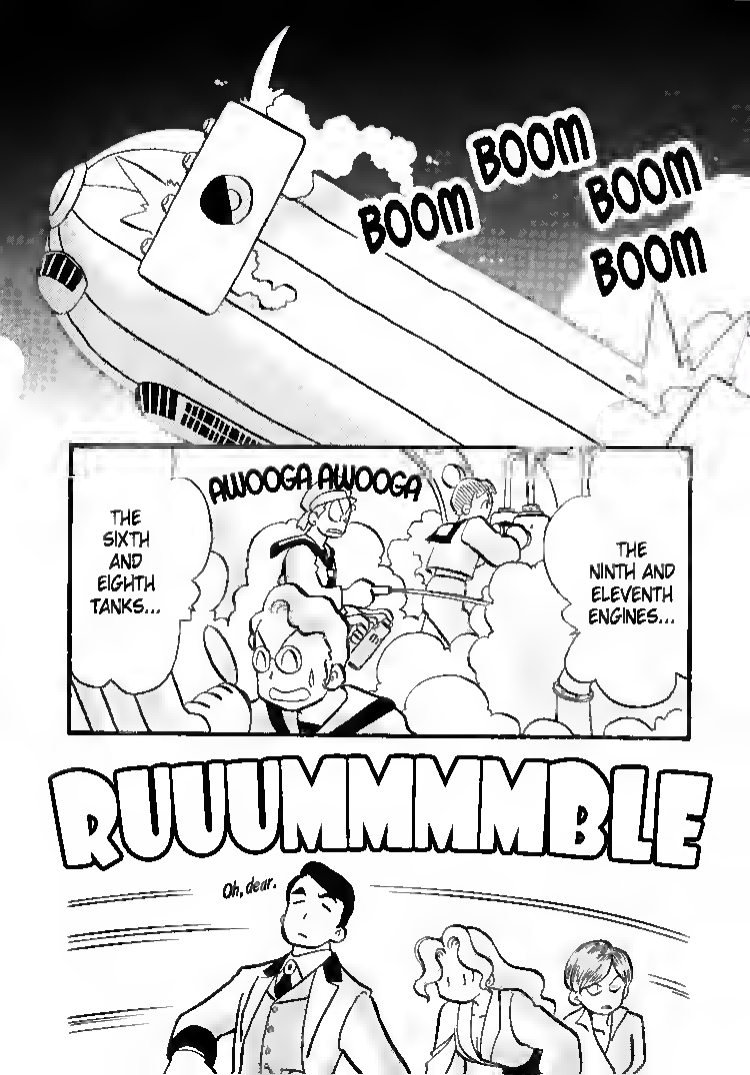
JUST JUMP SOMEONE, THEN. HAVE YOUR WAY WITH THEM.
YOU LIKE TAKING THE LEAD, DON'T YOU?
ISN'T IT QUICKER TO JUST JUMP SOMEONE?
N-NO REASON....

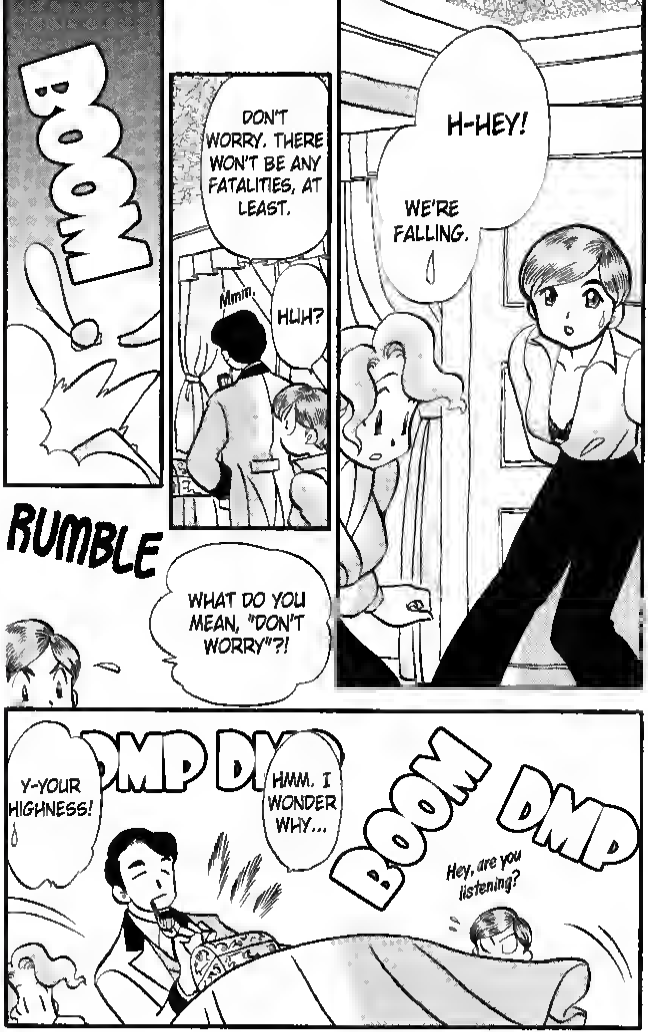


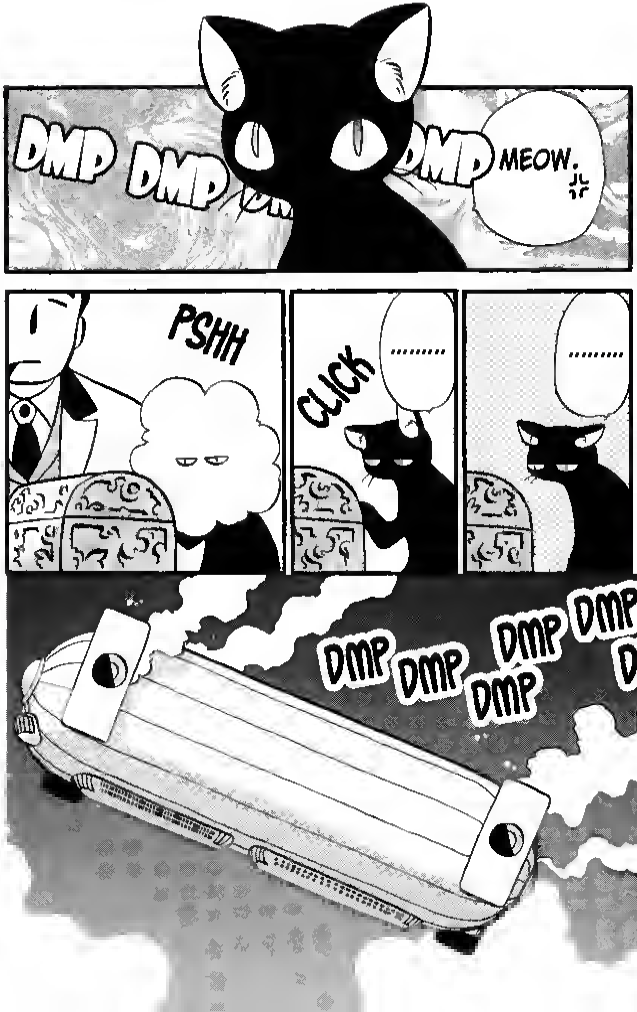
MM!
—HEY, I DIDN'T MEAN ME!
Mmmmmph.
Mmmmmph.
MORNING, ENUS.

HMM.
PUFF
CRACKLE
CRACK
THAT NAP REALLY DID THE TRICK. I FEEL COMPLETELY REVITALIZED.
IT REALLY WOULD BE QUICKER TO JUST JUMP HIM, YOU KNOW.

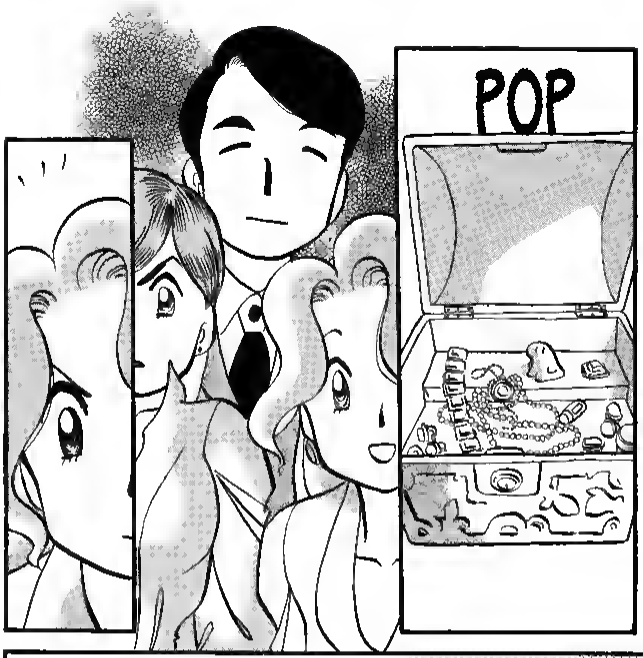
.....
.....


BOOM BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
AWOOGA AWOOGA
THE SIXTH AND EIGHTH TANKS...
THE NINTH AND ELEVENTH ENGINES...
RUUUMMMMBLE
Oh, dear.


BOOM!
DON'T WORRY. THERE WON'T BE ANY FATALITIES, AT LEAST.
Mmm.
HUH?
H-HEY!
WE'RE FALLING.
RUMBLE
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "DON'T WORRY"?!
Y-YOUR HIGHNESS!
HMM. I WONDER WHY...
BOOM
DMP
Hey, are you listening?

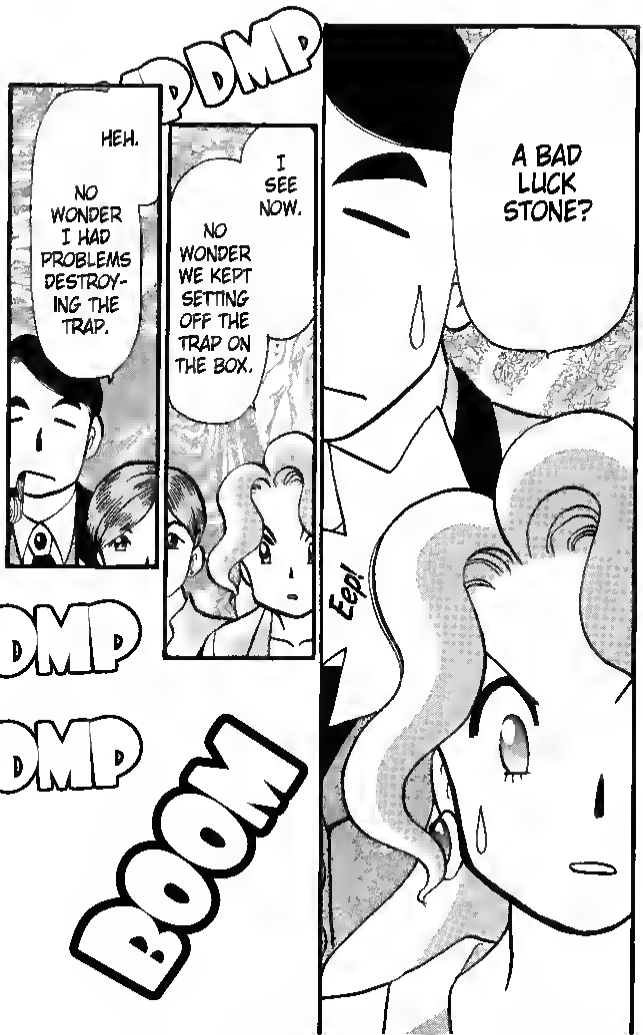

DMP DMP DMP
MEOW.
PSHH
CLICK
.....
.....
DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP

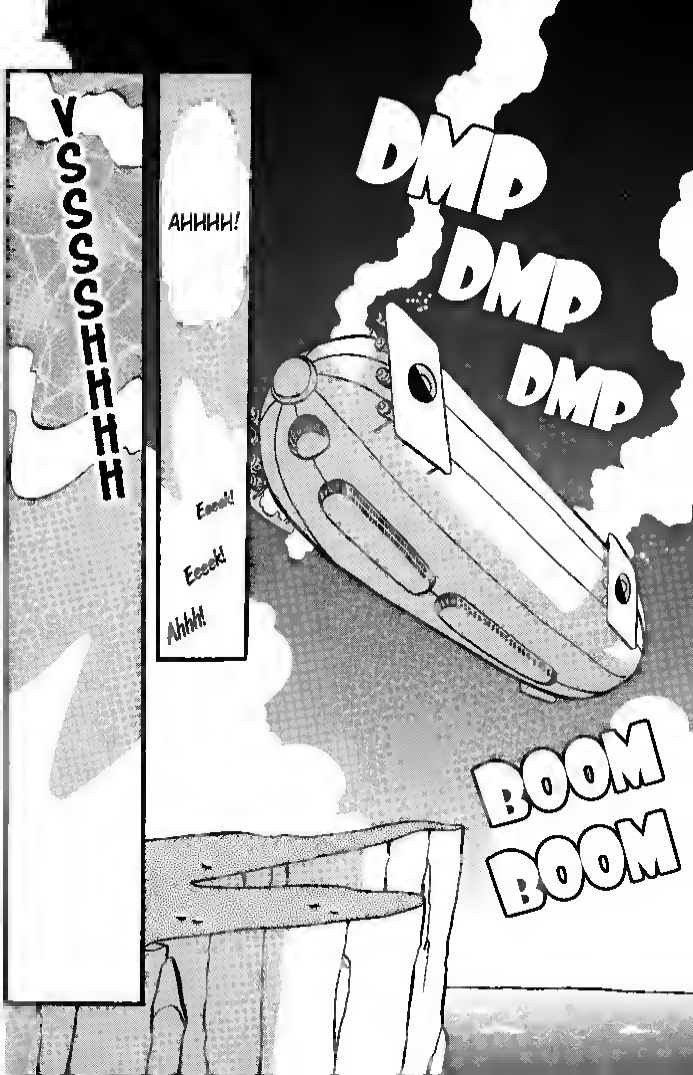
HUH?
yank
? WHAT, ENUS?
SNAP
OH.
CLICK



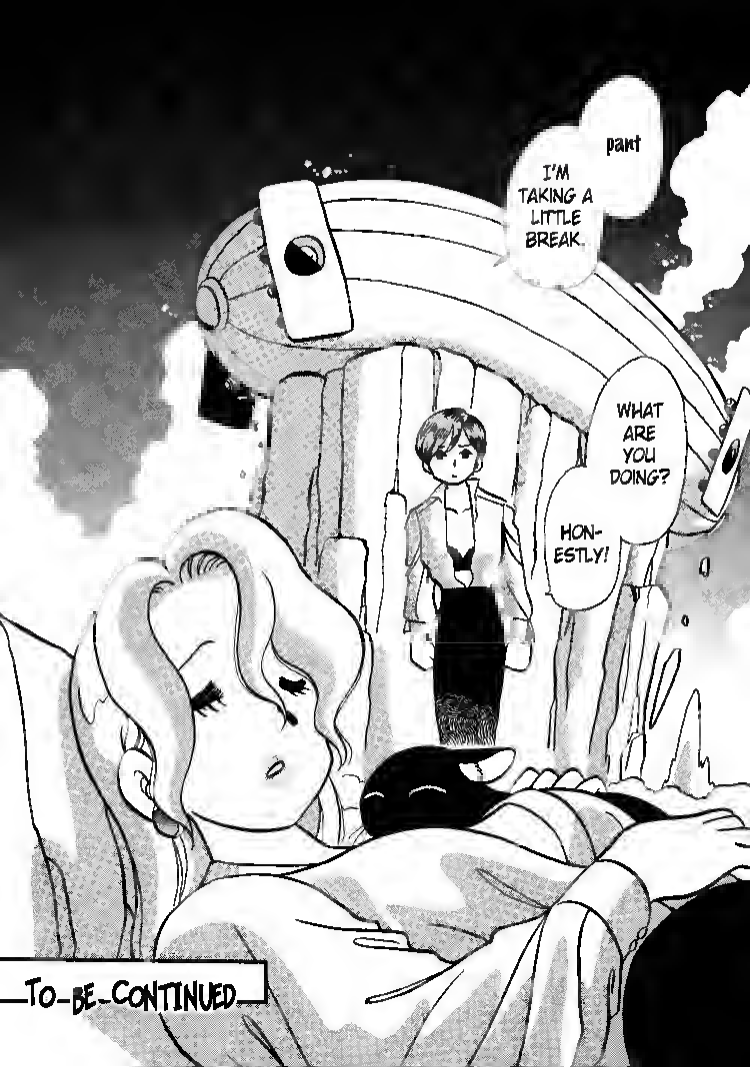
Opto Stone: Produced on the planet Opto. Because they're only created in small quantities and rarely taken off-planet, they're particularly rare. They influence the probability glands of living beings, constantly bringing them bad luck. An Opto Stone is also known as—

HUH?


A BAD LUCK STONE?
Eep!
DMP
I SEE NOW.
NO WONDER WE KEPT SETTING OFF THE TRAP ON THE BOX.
HEH.
NO WONDER I HAD PROBLEMS DESTROY-ING THE TRAP.
DMP
DMP
BOOM


VSSSHHHH
AHHHH!
Eeek!
Eeek!
Ahhh!
DMP
DMP
DMP
BOOM
BOOM

SSSHHH
Fell out. Again.
pant
pant


pant
I'M TAKING A LITTLE BREAK.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HON-ESTLY!
TO-BE-CONTINUED

Transistor Venus

Chapter 12

Scanned by: Sailor Avalon
Translated by: Sailor Avalon
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QC'd by: The Lory-kat_chan, Sailor Avalon, and Tiny Snowfairy

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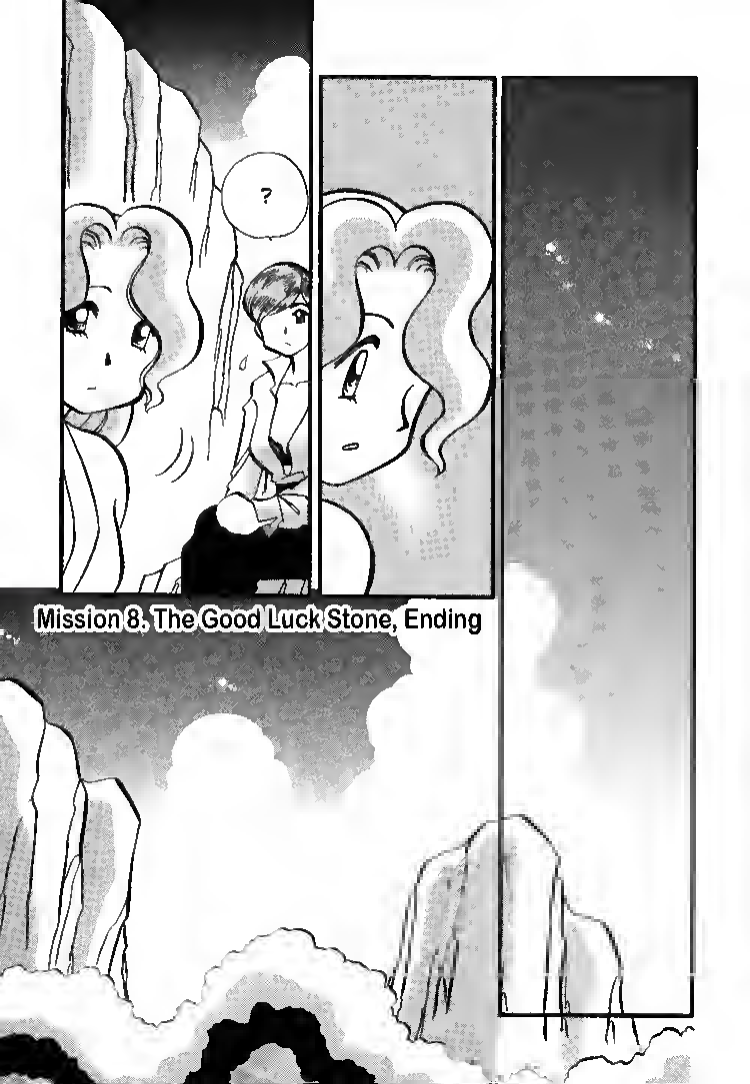
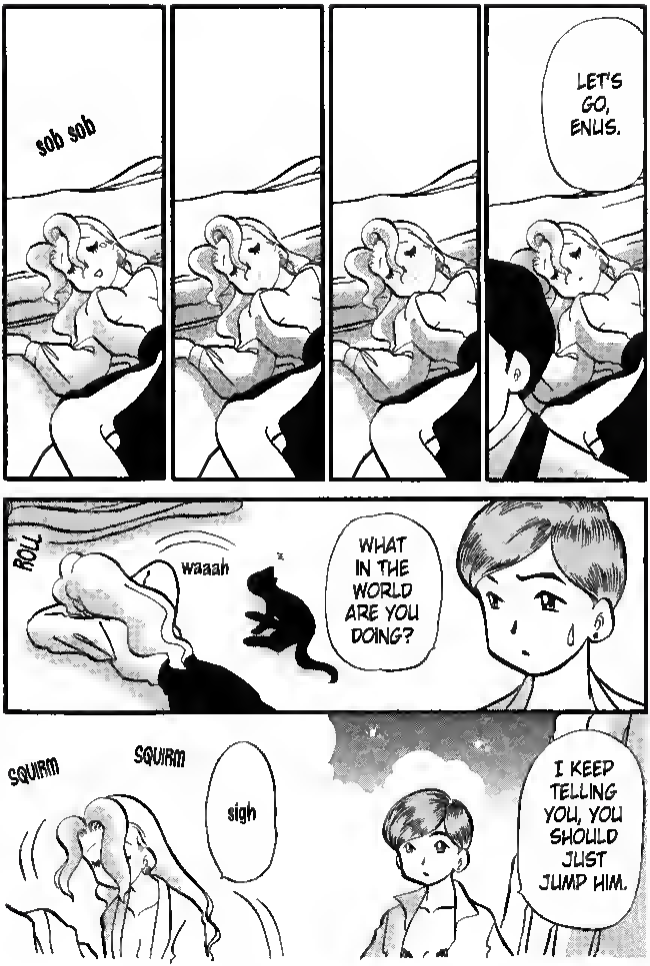

?
Mission 8. The Good Luck Stone, Ending

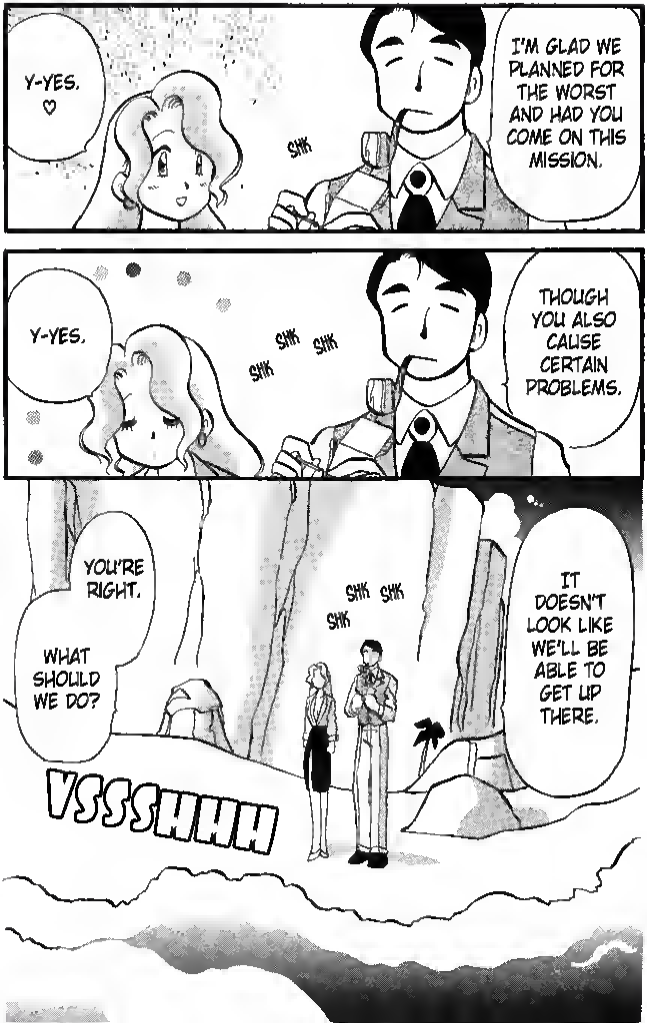
FWIP
FLOP
SKSH
OHHH?

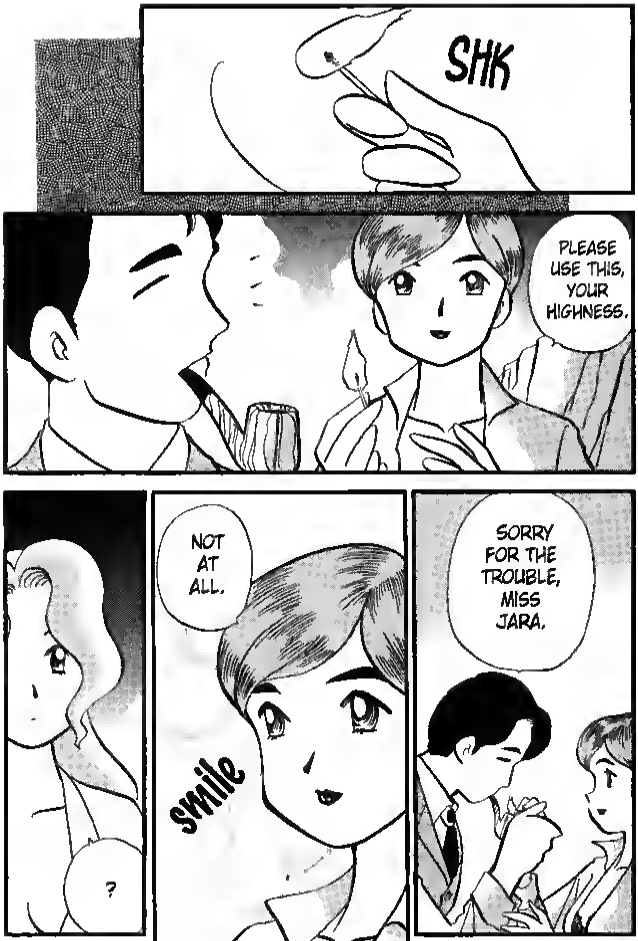
SKSH
SKSH


sob sob
LET'S GO, ENUS.
ROLL
waaah
WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING?
SQUIRM
SQUIRM
sigh
I KEEP TELLING YOU, YOU SHOULD JUST JUMP HIM.

FLAP
FLAP
Apparently, sand got in her clothes. It hurt.
.....
It's wet, so she couldn't get the sand out
SCRAPE
SCRAPE
URRGGHH.

THE PASSENGERS SEEM TO BE ALL RIGHT.
MM-HMM. YES.

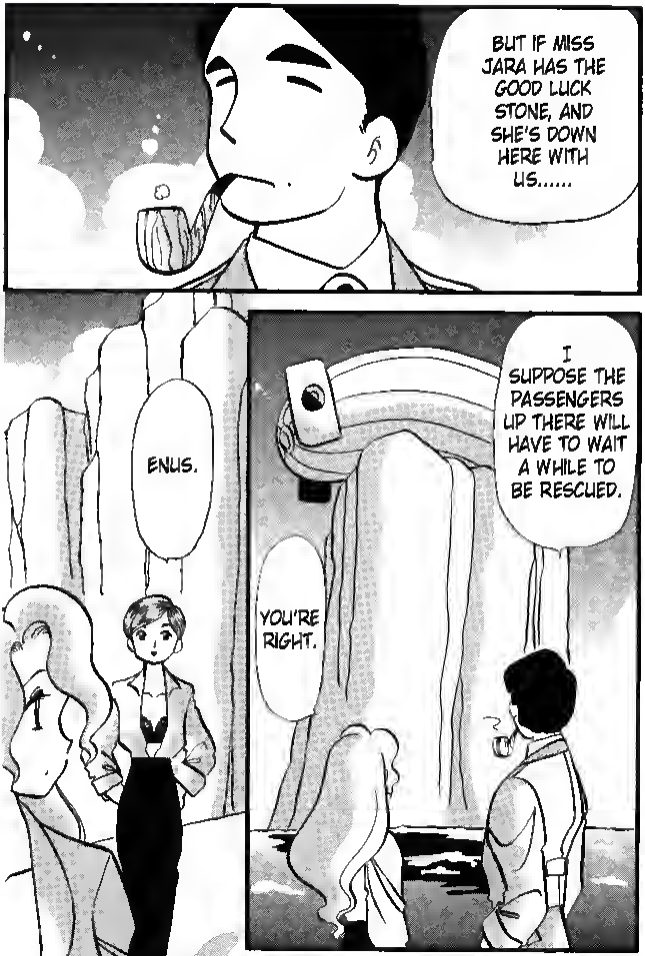

Y-YES. ♡
SHK
I'M GLAD WE PLANNED FOR THE WORST AND HAD YOU COME ON THIS MISSION.
Y-YES.
SHK SHK SHK SHK
THOUGH YOU ALSO CAUSE CERTAIN PROBLEMS.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
SHK SHK SHK
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE WE'LL BE ABLE TO GET UP THERE.
VSSSHAH


SHK
PLEASE USE THIS, YOUR HIGHNESS.
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE, MISS JARA.
NOT AT ALL.
smile
?

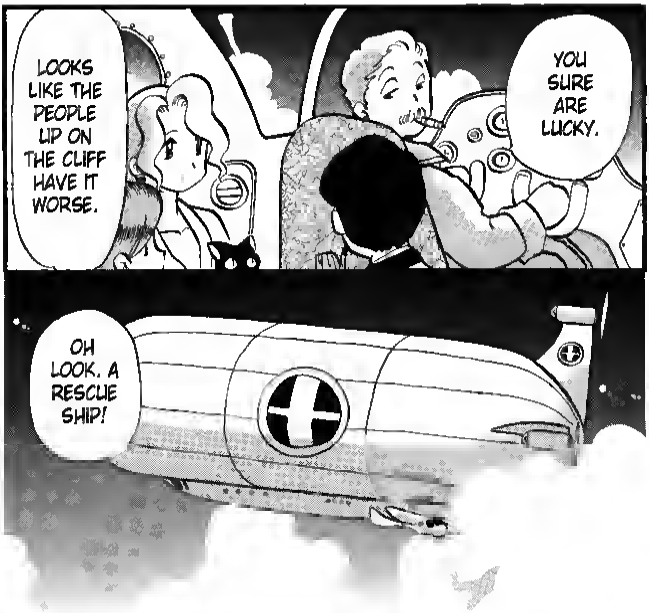
OH!
EXCUSE ME.
.....
.....
.....

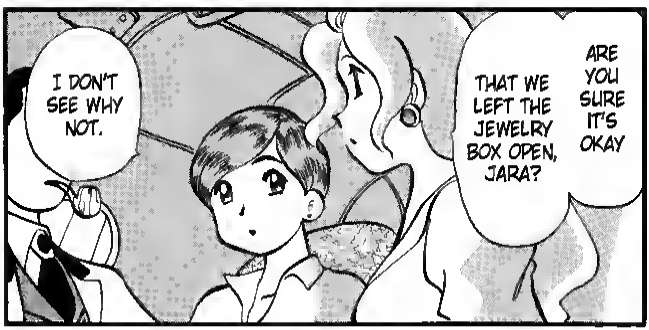
I SEE.
THAT WAS IN EXCHANGE FOR LIGHTING YOUR PIPE.
SHK
SHK
SHK
SNAP
BY THE WAY, MISS JARA,
OH, YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH THEM?
SNAP
SHK
SHK
SNAP
IS THAT A GOOD LUCK STONE ON YOUR BRACELET?

I DON'T NEED A LIGHT ANYMORE.
SHFFFF
YOU WERE ABLE TO AVOID BEING INFLUENCED BY THE BAD LUCK STONE.
THERE ARE A LIMITED NUMBER OF WAYS TO DO THAT.
VSSSHHH
The two stones cancel each other out, so her luck is normal.

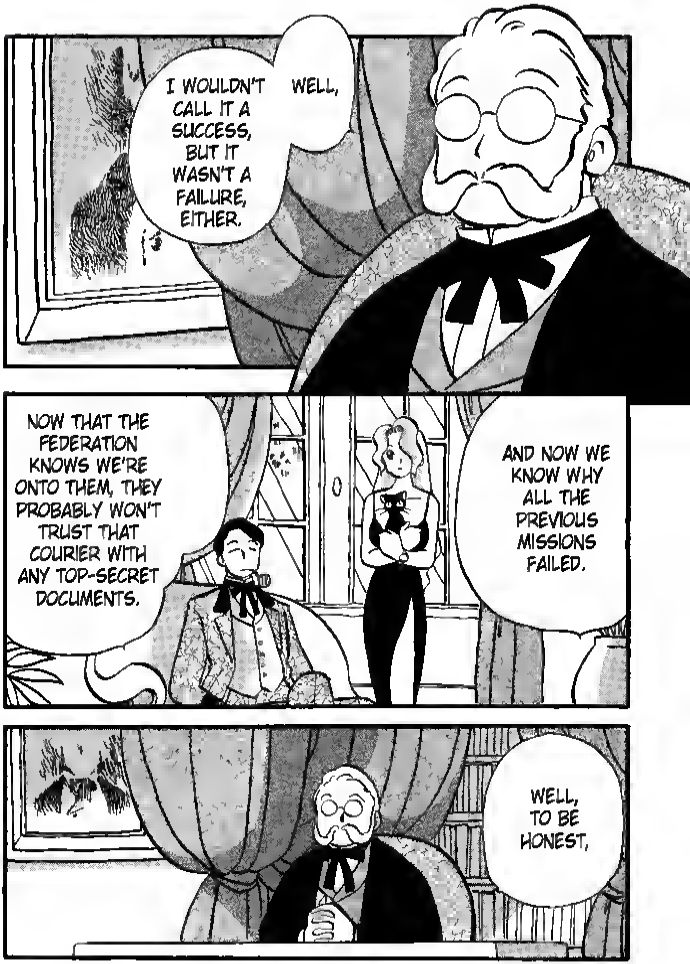

BUT IF MISS JARA HAS THE GOOD LUCK STONE, AND SHE'S DOWN HERE WITH US.....
I SUPPOSE THE PASSENGERS UP THERE WILL HAVE TO WAIT A WHILE TO BE RESCUED.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
ENUS.

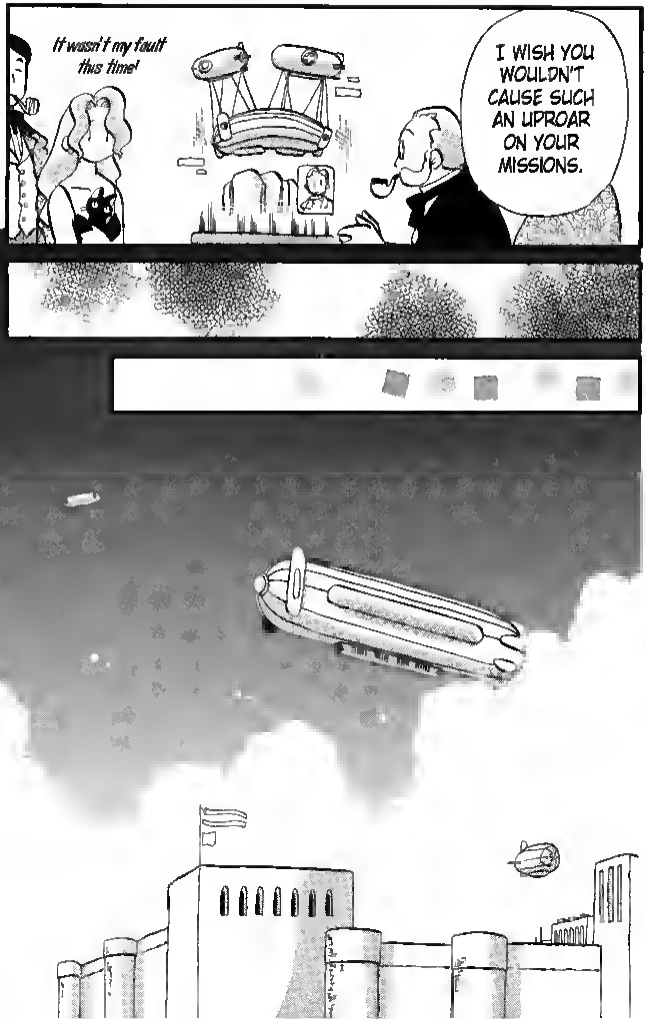
HUH?
SHALL I LET YOU GIVE ME A KISS?
AN IN-DIRECT KISS.
BZZZZZ
BZZZZZ


LOOKS LIKE THE PEOPLE UP ON THE CLIFF HAVE IT WORSE.
YOU SURE ARE LUCKY.
OH LOOK. A RESCUE SHIP!


I DON'T SEE WHY NOT.
THAT WE LEFT THE JEWELRY BOX OPEN, JARA?
ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY

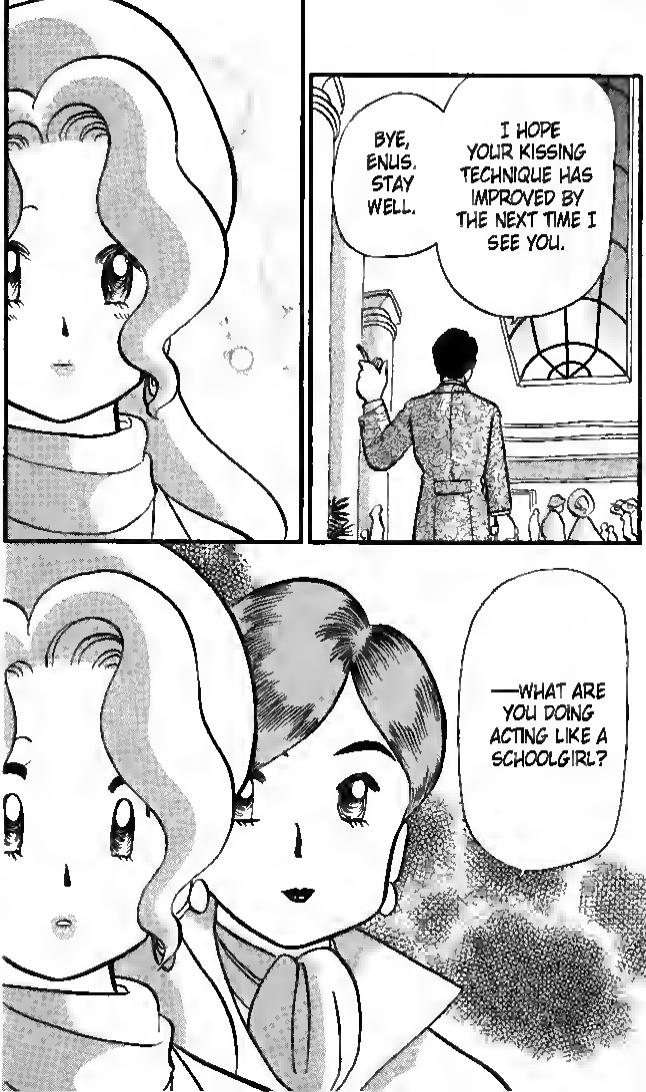
I DIDN'T HAVE ANY DOCUMENTS WITH ME THIS TIME ANYWAY.
SO, DID WE FAIL IN OUR MISSION, THEN,
YOUR HIGHNESS?
HMM. I'M NOT SURE.


I WOULDN'T CALL IT A SUCCESS, BUT IT WASN'T A FAILURE, EITHER.
WELL,
NOW THAT THE FEDERATION KNOWS WE'RE ONTO THEM, THEY PROBABLY WON'T TRUST THAT COURIER WITH ANY TOP-SECRET DOCUMENTS.
AND NOW WE KNOW WHY ALL THE PREVIOUS MISSIONS FAILED.
WELL, TO BE HONEST,

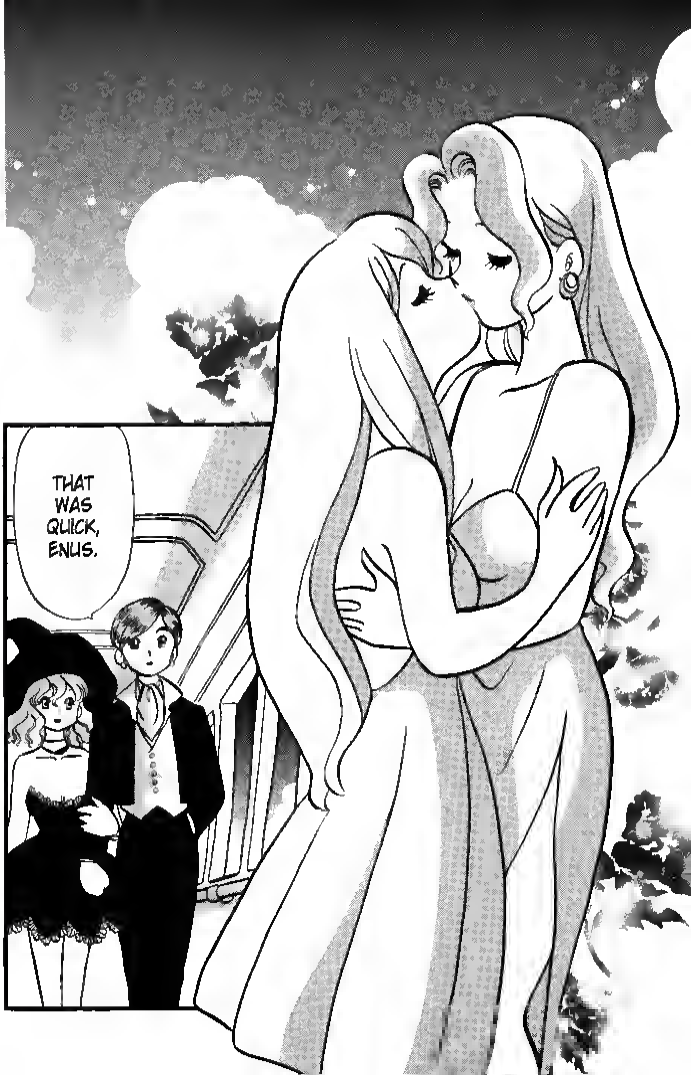

It wasn't my fault this time!
I WISH YOU WOULDN'T CAUSE SUCH AN UPROAR ON YOUR MISSIONS.

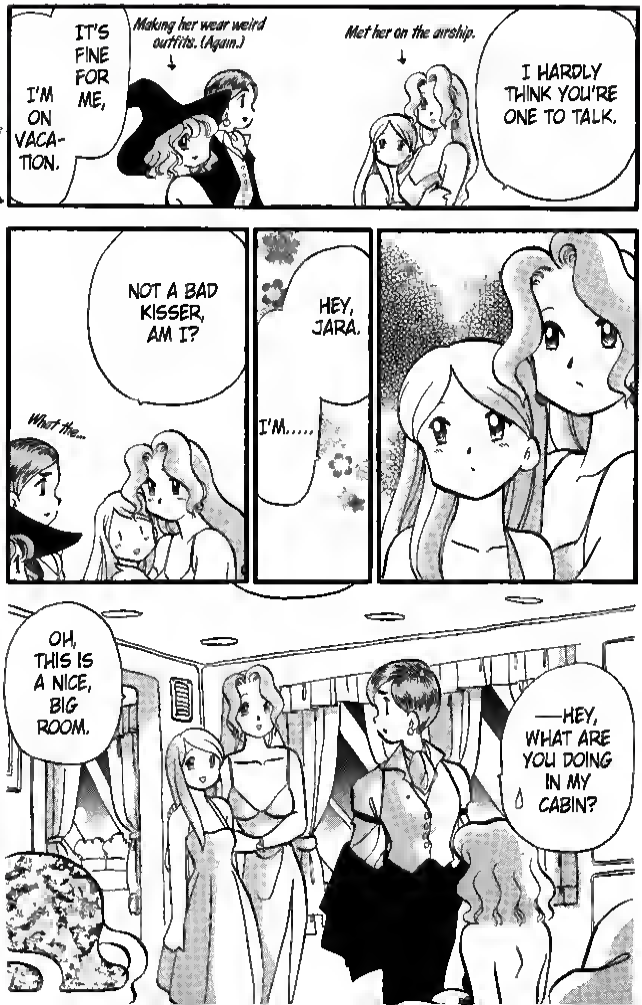
Y-YES, YOUR HIGHNESS.
I'M SURE WE'LL END UP WORKING TOGETHER AGAIN SOMETIME.
E-EXCUSE ME! YOUR HIGHNESS.
UH, UM, UHHM...

UH, UMMMM.
YES?
WOULD YOU TAKE THAT PIPE OUT OF YOUR MOUTH?
HM?
OH, UH, UM, TH-
THAT WAS A GOODBYE K-
KISS.


I HOPE YOUR KISSING TECHNIQUE HAS IMPROVED BY THE NEXT TIME I SEE YOU.
BYE, ENUS. STAY WELL.
—WHAT ARE YOU DOING ACTING LIKE A SCHOOLGIRL?

WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, JARA?
I'M ON VACA-TION.
THE CARCADAY CRASHED SO I'M FREE UNTIL I GET MY NEXT GIG.
I'M TAKING THE NEXT FLIGHT TO AMA-RANTE.
OH, SO AM I.

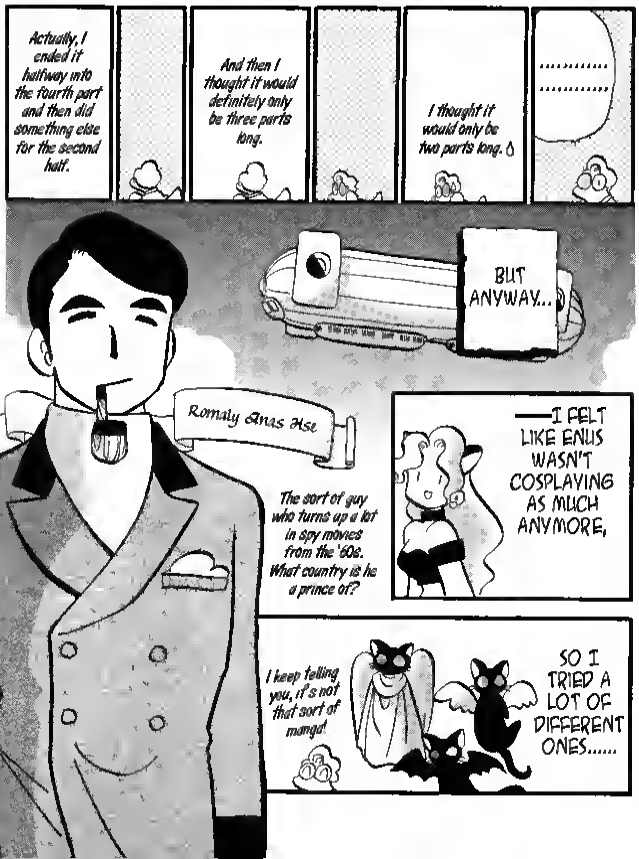

THAT WAS QUICK, ENUS.

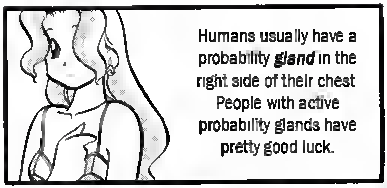

She does it when she's working, too.
I'M ON VACATION.
IT'S FINE FOR ME,
Making her wear weird outfits. (Again.)
Met her on the airship.
I HARDLY THINK YOU'RE ONE TO TALK.
What the...
NOT A BAD KISSER, AM I?
HEY, JARA.
I'M.....
OH, THIS IS A NICE, BIG ROOM.
—HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY CABIN?

PSHH
OH! ENUS!
OH, THIS IS...
POP
THUD
Z
The Bad Luck Stone
At least the bad luck stone wasn't there.
Honestly!
THE END

The Making of "Mission 8: The Good Luck Stone"

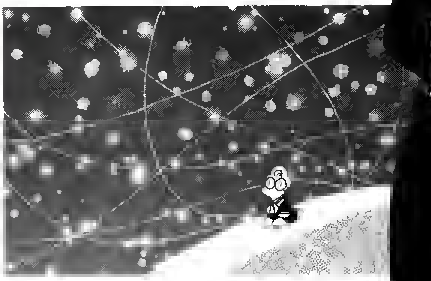
September-December 2000 issues of *Comic Flapper*

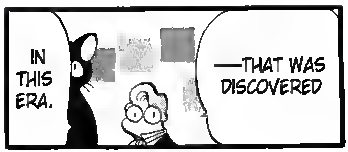

Actually, I ended it halfway into the fourth part and then did something else for the second half.
And then I thought it would definitely only be three parts long.
I thought it would only be two parts long.
.....
.....
BUT ANYWAY...
Romaly Anas Ase
The sort of guy who turns up a lot in spy movies from the '60s. What country is he a prince of?
—I FELT LIKE ENUS WASN'T COSPLAYING AS MUCH ANYMORE,
I keep telling you, it's not that sort of manga!
SO I TRIED A LOT OF DIFFERENT ONES.....


Humans usually have a probability *gland* in the right side of their chest
People with active probability glands have pretty good luck.

and people with active probability glands end up doing things just when a lot of probability lines intersect

—This is because there are probability *lines* running through the air that control probability in the world.





It was!

Sielaha

Jara

Transistor Venus

Chapter 13

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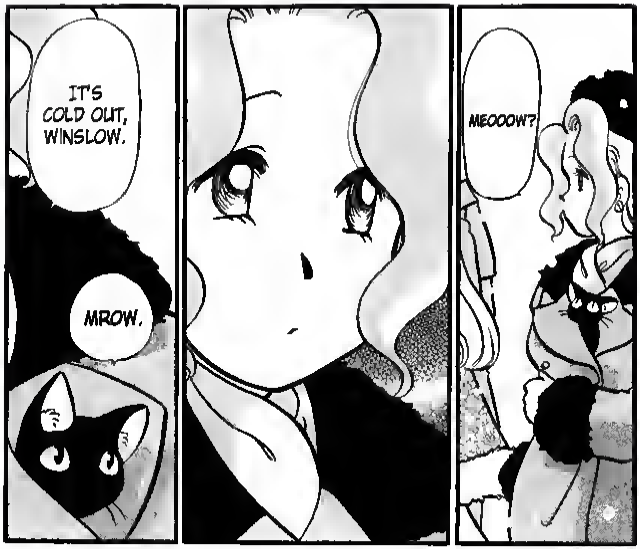
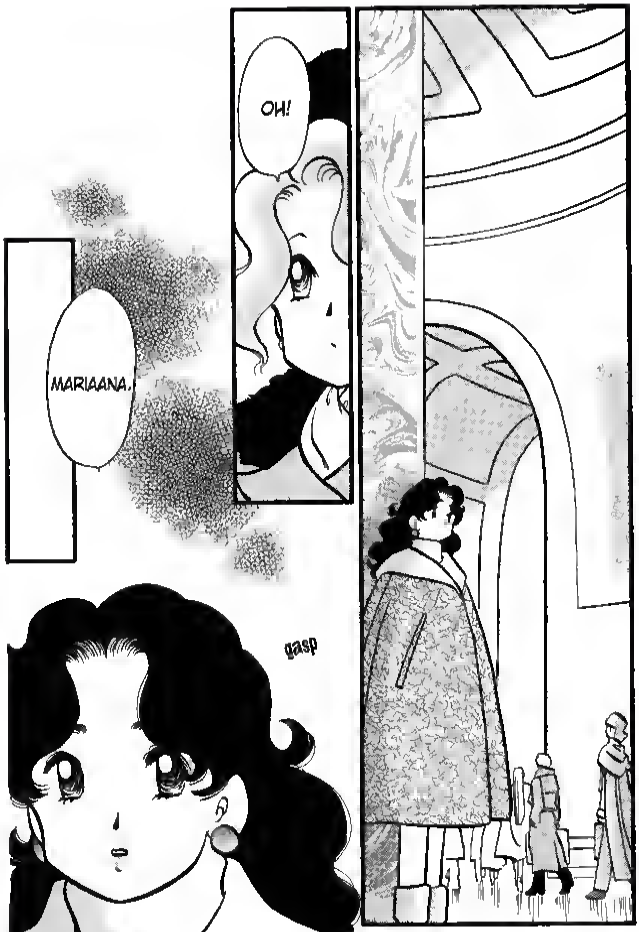


Interlude: The Current of Years


OH!
MARIAANA.
gasp

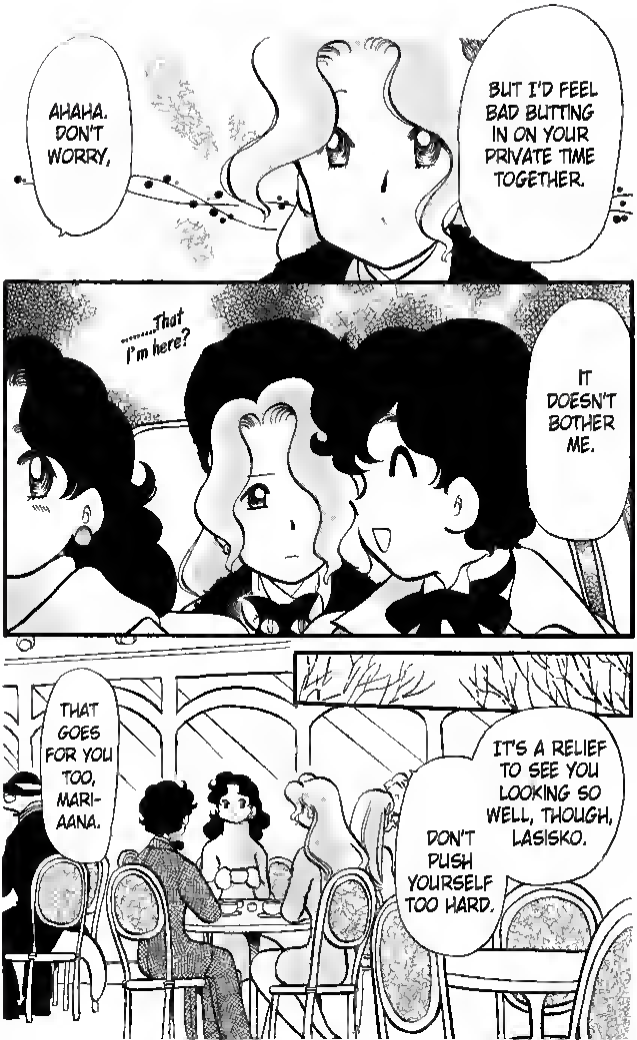
NO, PLEASURE.
HERE ON BUSI-NESS?
ENUS.
ME, TOO.
MARIAANA.
WELL, YOU SEE, I—
I FINALLY GET TO GO ON VACATION, AND NOBODY'S AROUND! I'M SO LONELY.

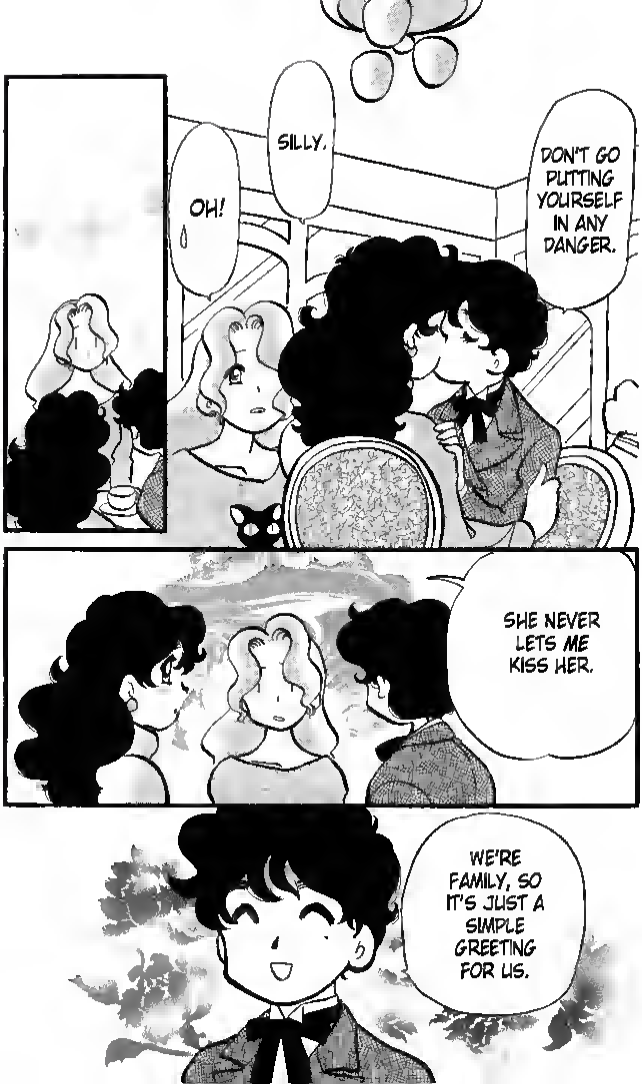
MARIAANA.
LASISKO.
SORRY, DID YOU WAIT LONG?

WHO ARE YOU?
—WAIT, WHO ARE YOU?
HUH? YOUR BROTHER?
YOUR LITTLE BROTH-ER?
OH.

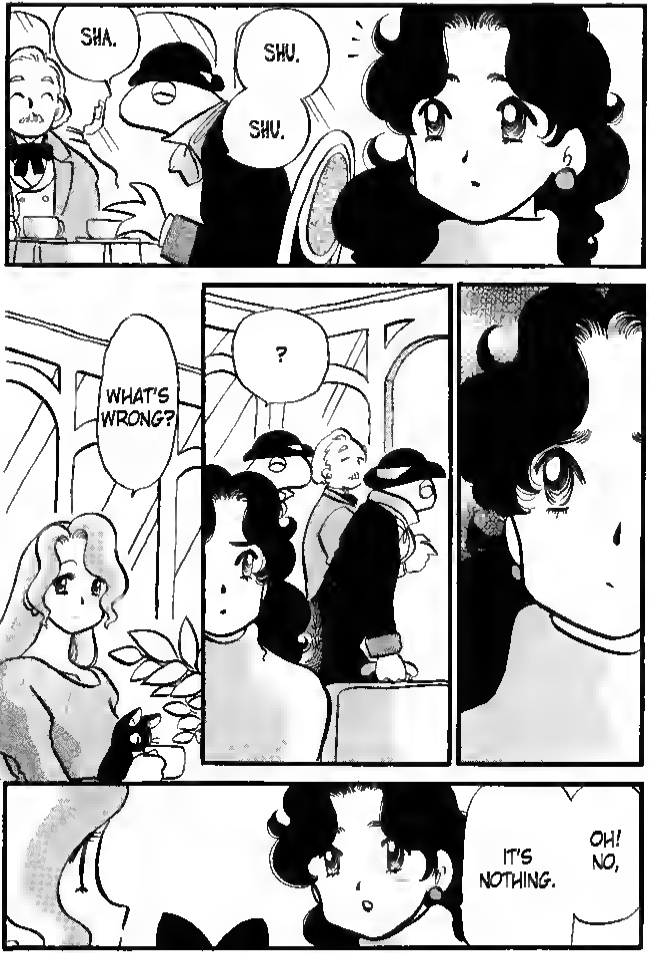
APRIL ENUS?
.....
OH!
YOU KNOW, NOW THAT I LOOK AT YOU, I CAN SEE THE RESEM-BLANCE.
I'M APRIL ENUS.
HELLO.
I'M NZALES LASISKO.
.....
.....
.....
THE GODDESS OF GOOD FORTUNE.

MY BROTHER WORKS FOR THE INTELLIGENCE BUREAU TOO.
?
YOU'RE LUCKY, MARIAANA.
I'M ALL ON MY OWN. I'M SO LONELY.
WANT TO COME WITH US, THEN?
I DON'T MIND.


AHAHA. DON'T WORRY,
BUT I'D FEEL BAD BUTTING IN ON YOUR PRIVATE TIME TOGETHER.
.....That I'm here?
IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME.
THAT GOES FOR YOU TOO, MARI-AANA.
DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD.
IT'S A RELIEF TO SEE YOU LOOKING SO WELL, THOUGH, LASISKO.


DON'T GO PUTTING YOURSELF IN ANY DANGER.
SILLY.
OH!
SHE NEVER LETS ME KISS HER.
WE'RE FAMILY, SO IT'S JUST A SIMPLE GREETING FOR US.

SO, FAMILY MEMBERS CAN KISS HER ALL THEY WANT.
YOU KNOW, I'VE ALWAYS LIKED YOU. I'LL MARRY YOU.
Then I can kiss Mariana all I want. ♡
AHAHAHA.


SHA.
SHU.
SHU.
WHAT'S WRONG?
?
OH! NO,
IT'S NOTHING.

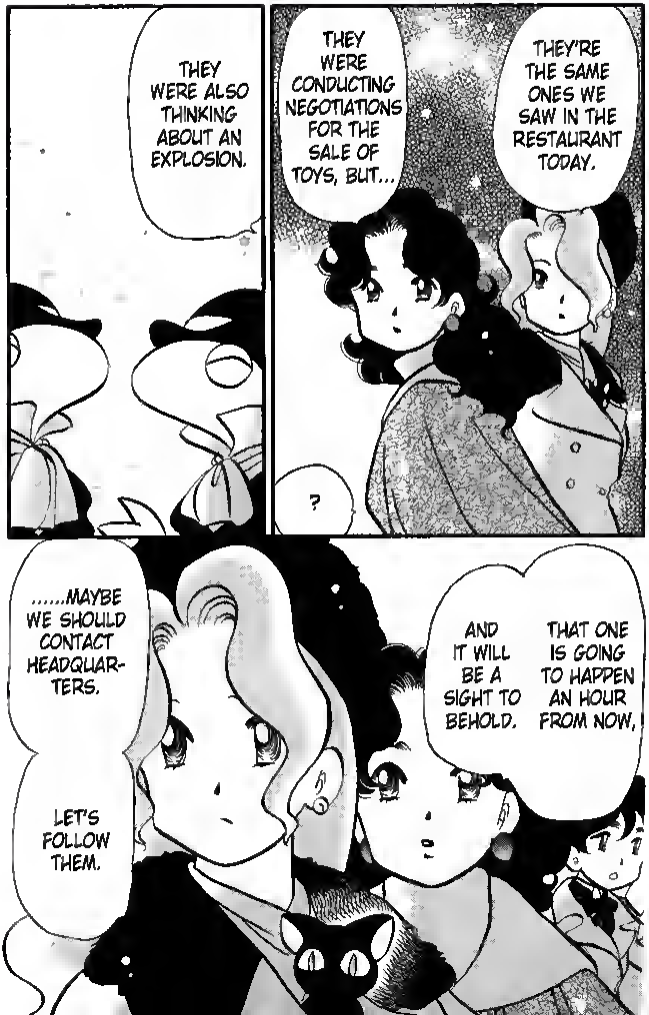
I WAS ONLY ABLE TO GET THREE DAYS OFF,
SO I HAVE TO GO STRAIGHT BACK.
OH, WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME, THEN.
AND WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER IN SO LONG!
IT'S NOTHING NEW. AND WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN BEFORE WE KNOW IT.
YOU'RE RIGHT.

NO KISSING ALLOWED.
IF YOU KISS HER TOO MUCH, THERE WON'T BE ENOUGH LEFT.
WHY NOT?
Everyone only gets a set number of kisses in the course of their lifetime. Please don't waste any of hers.
Mariana's kisses.
Enough of what?

.....
.....
AGH!
LASISKO.
mwah
mwah
mwah
mwah
mwah
MARIAANA ♡
THAT WAS ON PURPOSE, RIGHT? YOU'RE DOING IT ON PURPOSE?
YEAH, I AM.

EVEN COUPLES DON'T KISS THAT MUCH.
AHA-HAHA.
YOU WANT TO KISS MARIAANA THAT BADLY?
Yeah.
HOW ABOUT YOU GIVE HER A KISS THEN, MARIAANA?
Huh?
SHE SAYS NO.
Oh! No, I didn't say that.

STOP IT!
SHU.
SHU.
SHU.
THOSE SAURIAN MERCHANTS .....
IS SOME-THING WRONG?

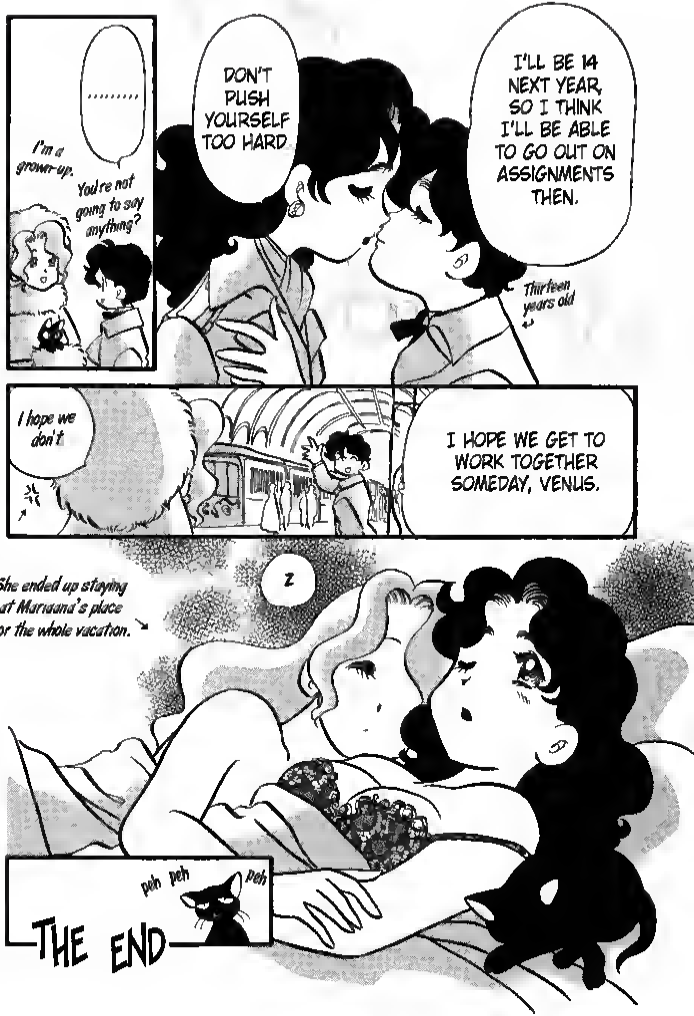

THEY WERE ALSO THINKING ABOUT AN EXPLOSION.
THEY WERE CONDUCTING NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE SALE OF TOYS, BUT...
THEY'RE THE SAME ONES WE SAW IN THE RESTAURANT TODAY.
?
.....MAYBE WE SHOULD CONTACT HEADQUARTERS.
LET'S FOLLOW THEM.
AND IT WILL BE A SIGHT TO BEHOLD.
THAT ONE IS GOING TO HAPPEN AN HOUR FROM NOW,

WHERE IN THE WORLD .....
DASH!

BOOM

POP
POP
POP
BOOM
BANG
Ooooh.
Ooooh.
Shu.
Ooooh.
Shu shu.
FIRE-WORKS?
In this snow?
I-I'M SORRY.
THEY MUST HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT THE FIREWORKS.
.....THIS WORKED OUT PERFECTLY, THOUGH.
HUH?

IT'S A ROMANTIC DATE.
Oh
MMMPH.
TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOURSELF, LASISKO.


.....
I'm a grown-up.
You're not going to say anything?
DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD
I'LL BE 14 NEXT YEAR, SO I THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO GO OUT ON ASSIGNMENTS THEN.
Thirteen years old
I hope we don't
I HOPE WE GET TO WORK TOGETHER SOMEDAY, VENUS.
She ended up staying at Mariaana's place for the whole vacation.
z
peh peh
peh
THE END

Intermission ⑤

The Making of "Interlude: The Current of Years," January 2001 issue of *Comic Flapper*

LET'S SAY 20 A DAY--
HOW MANY KISSES DOES A PERSON GET IN THE COURSE OF A LIFETIME?
.....
IF SOMEONE LIVES 150 YEARS, THAT WOULD MAKE IT..... AROUND A MILLION?
Nzales Lasisko
The format?
I SHOULD'VE PUT ENUS IN A SANTA SUIT, TO KEEP WITH THE FORMAT OF THE MANGA, RIGHT?
OH! DARN!

SO I'LL TRY DRAWING IT NOW.
I thought Mariana would look good as a bunny girl. It wasn't until later that I realized.....
that I must have my priorities all wrong if I was drawing it in the afterword instead of the manga itself....

Transistor Venus

Chapter 14

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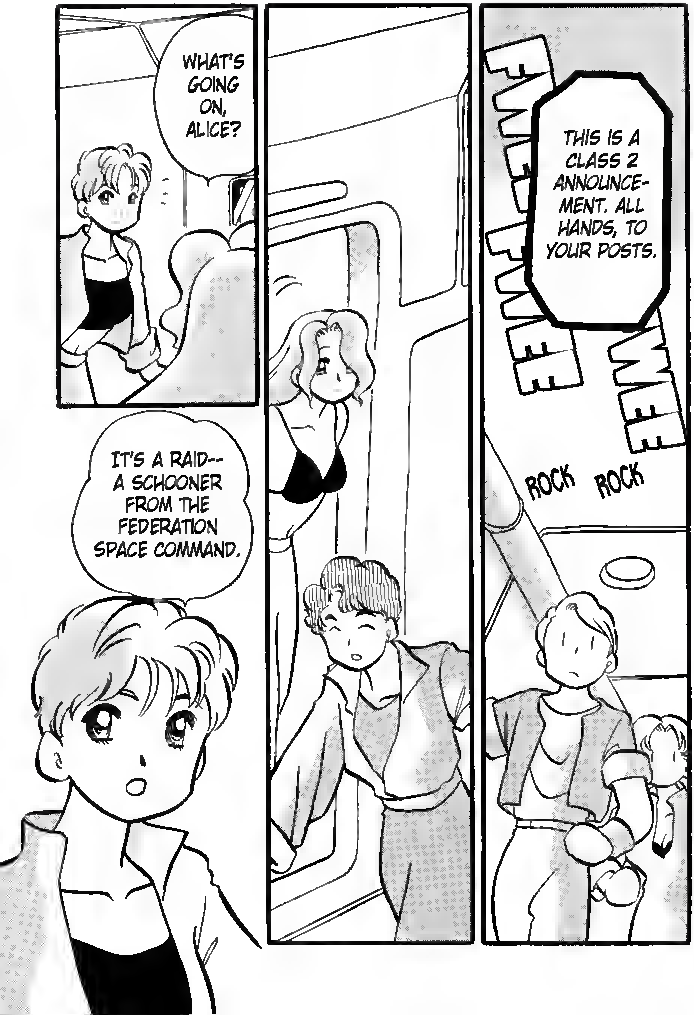
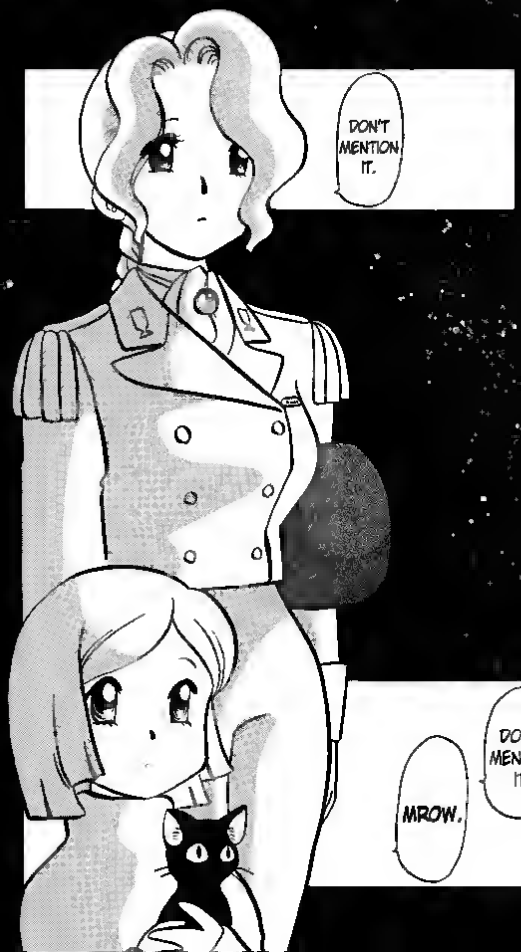
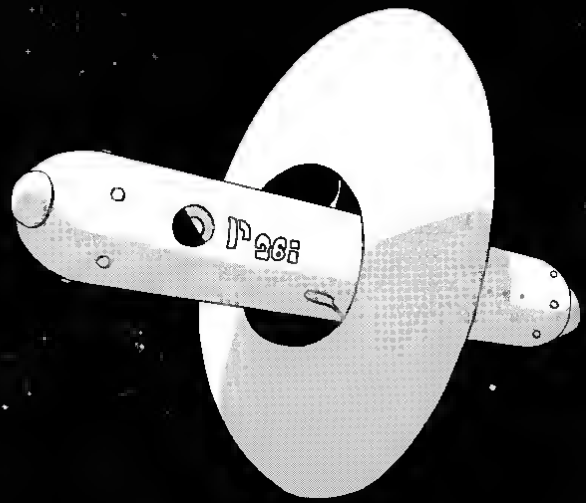

WHAT'S GOING ON, ALICE?
IT'S A RAID-- A SCHOONER FROM THE FEDERATION SPACE COMMAND.
THIS IS A CLASS 2 ANNOUNCE-MENT. ALL HANDS, TO YOUR POSTS.
WEE
WEE
ROCK
ROCK

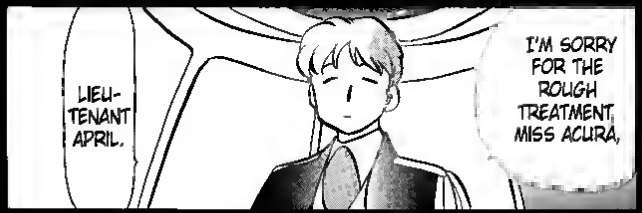
EXCUSE US.
MISS ACURA BENNETT, LIEUTENANT APRIL ENUS,
BENNETT.
WE'D BETTER GET READY,
YOU'RE RIGHT.
OH, MY.
The Federation?

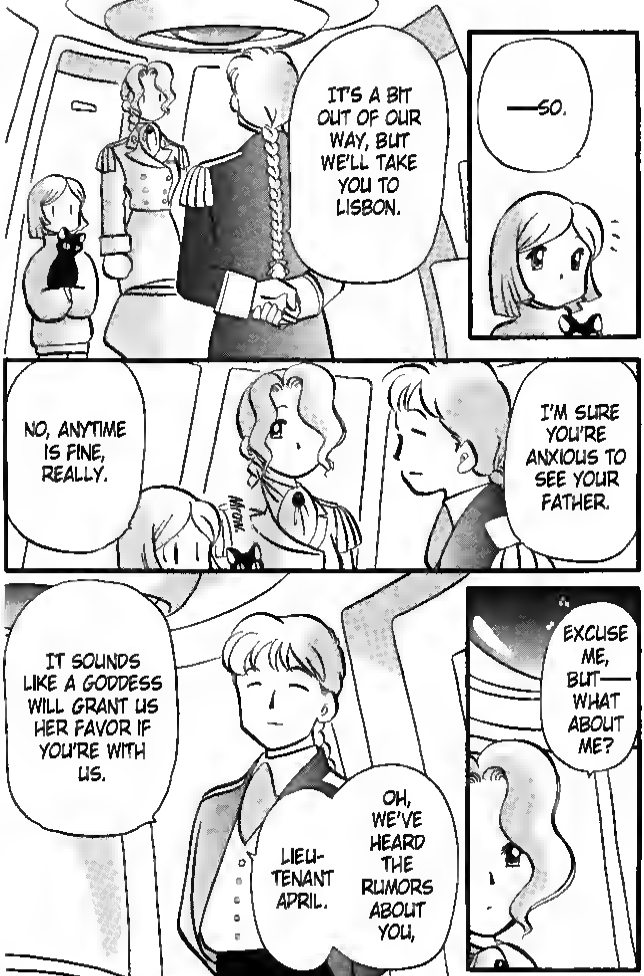
SPACE LIEUTENANT! I OBJECT. THIS IS NEUTRAL SPACE.
WE'D LIKE YOU TO ACCOMPANY US BACK TO OUR SHIP.
MEOW.
ALL SET.
CLACK CLACK
IF YOU HAVE AN OBJECTION, CAPTAIN,
PLEASE PUT IT IN WRITING AND PRESENT IT TO THE FEDERATION SPACE COMMAND HEAD OFFICE
CLACK CLACK
WE'RE ALL SET, MISTER.
TAKE CARE, ENUS.
WELL, BE SEEING YOU, ALICE.

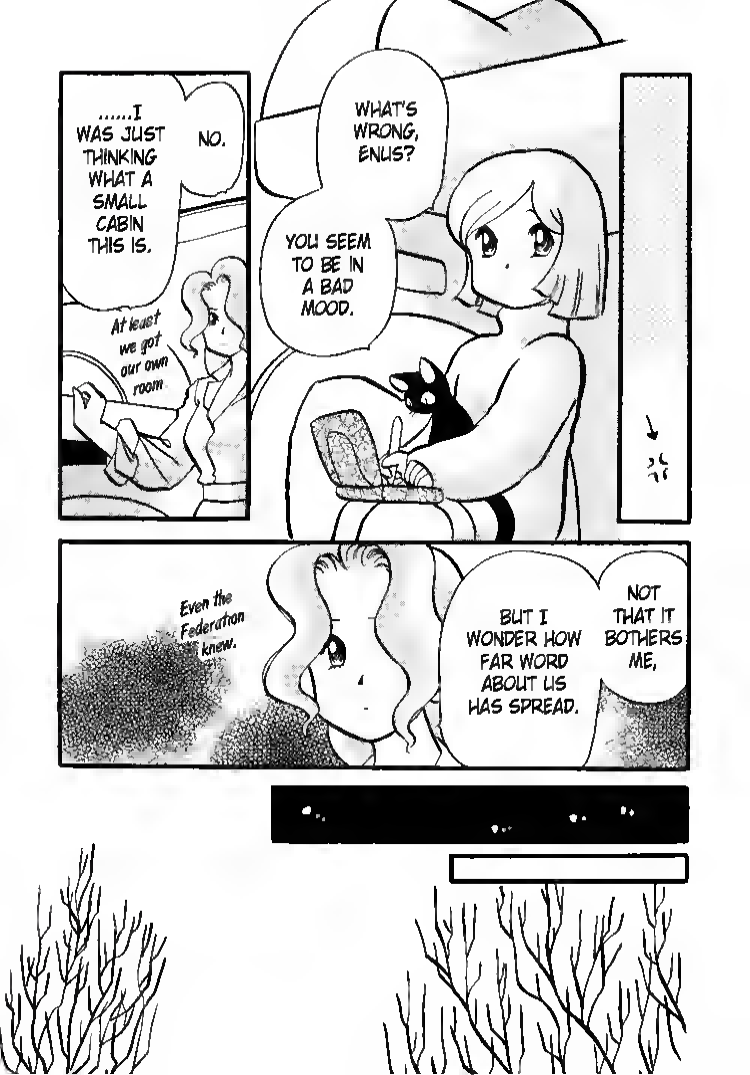
Mission 9. Space Venus





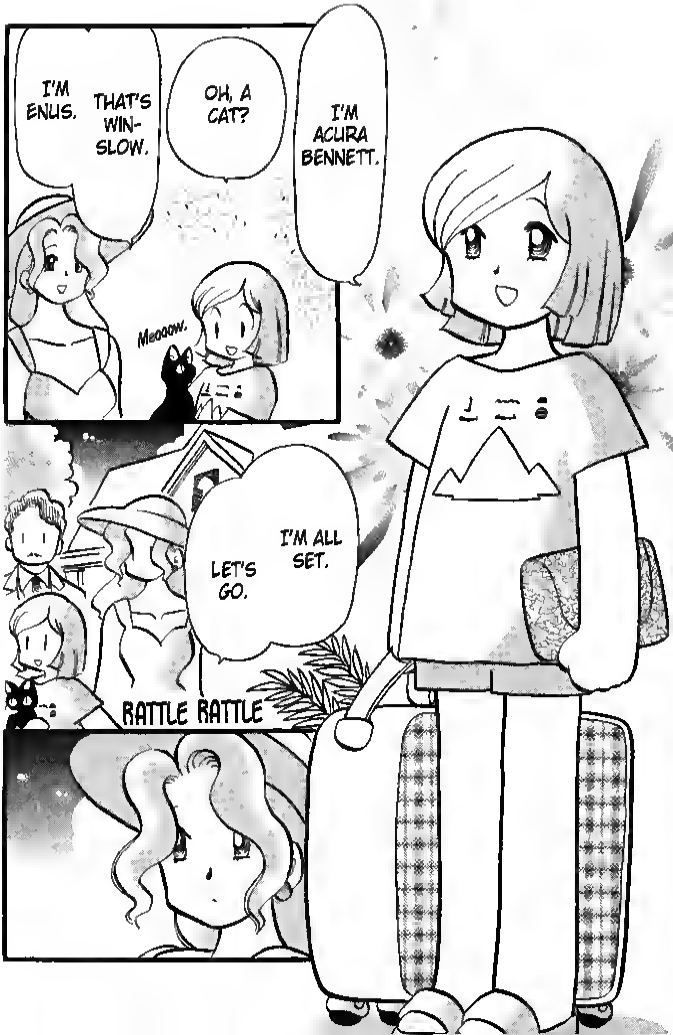


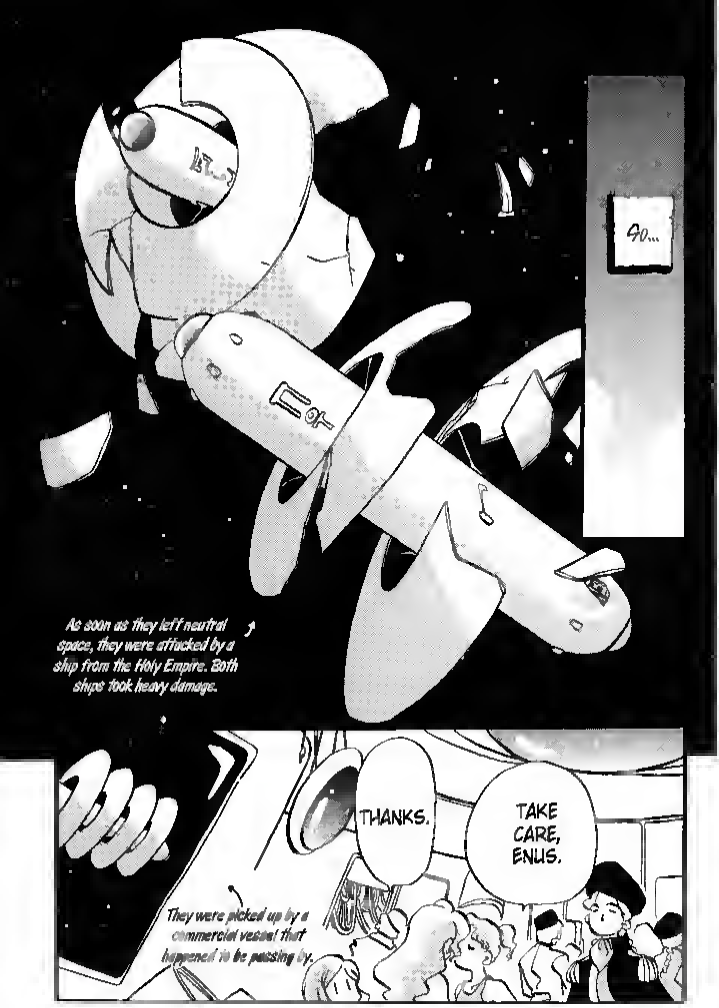

IT'S A BIT OUT OF OUR WAY, BUT WE'LL TAKE YOU TO LISBON.
—SO.
NO, ANYTIME IS FINE, REALLY.
MYOW.
I'M SURE YOU'RE ANXIOUS TO SEE YOUR FATHER.
IT SOUNDS LIKE A GODDESS WILL GRANT US HER FAVOR IF YOU'RE WITH US.
LIEU-TENANT APRIL.
OH, WE'VE HEARD THE RUMORS ABOUT YOU,
EXCUSE ME, BUT— WHAT ABOUT ME?

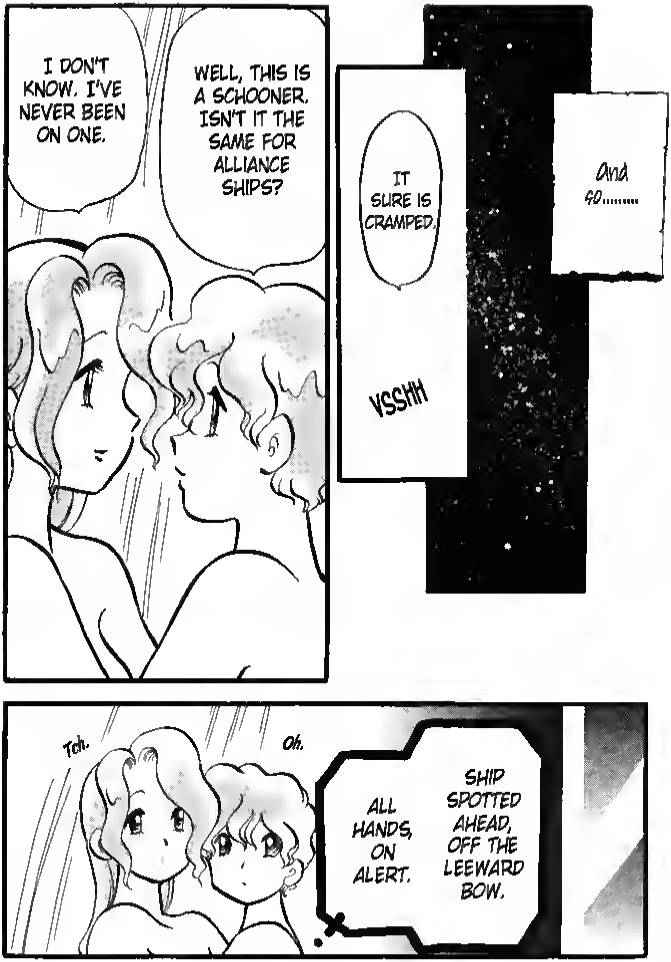

WHAT'S WRONG, ENUS?
YOU SEEM TO BE IN A BAD MOOD.
NO.
.....I WAS JUST THINKING WHAT A SMALL CABIN THIS IS.
At least we got our own room
NOT THAT IT BOTHERS ME,
BUT I WONDER HOW FAR WORD ABOUT US HAS SPREAD.
Even the Federation knew.

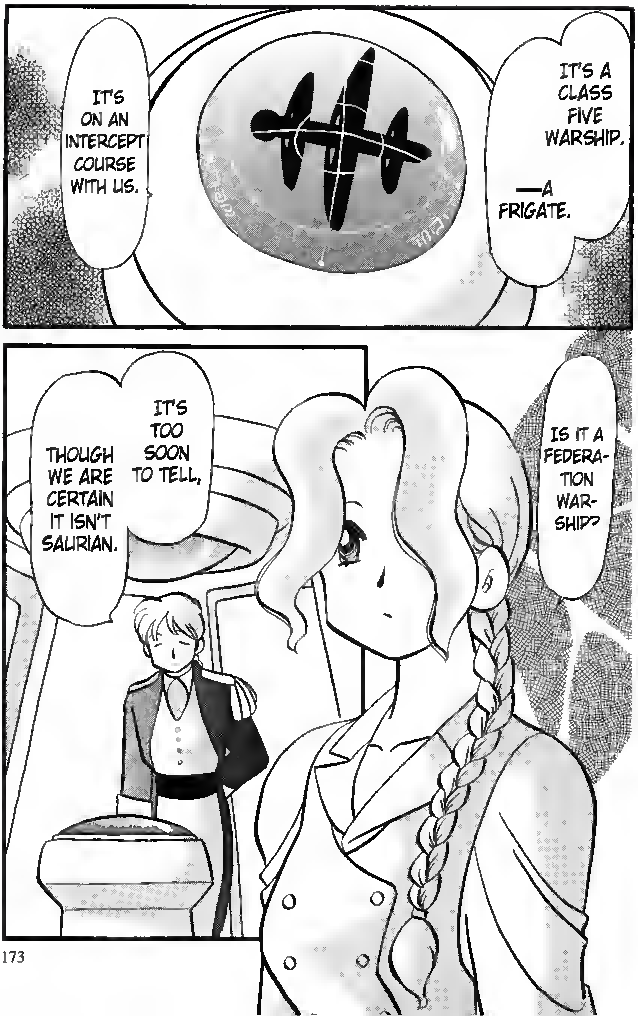
.....I'VE HEARD THE NAME SOMEWHERE BEFORE.
YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH ACURA EL-HAMSAM, YES?
HE CAME HERE TO LISBON SEEKING POLITICAL ASYLUM.
HE'S A NOBEL PRIZE-WINNING BIOPHYSICIST FROM THE PEOPLE'S KINGDOM OF BRUSSELS, WHICH WAS ANNEXED BY THE HOLY EMPIRE LAST YEAR.
YOU SHOULD AT LEAST SKIM THROUGH THE NEWS-PAPER.
BUT HE HAS INSISTED ON KEEPING HIS ONLY DAUGHTER WITH HIM.
Anyplace is fine as long as it's not part of the Holy Empire.
HE ISN'T PARTICULAR ABOUT WHERE HE GOES,

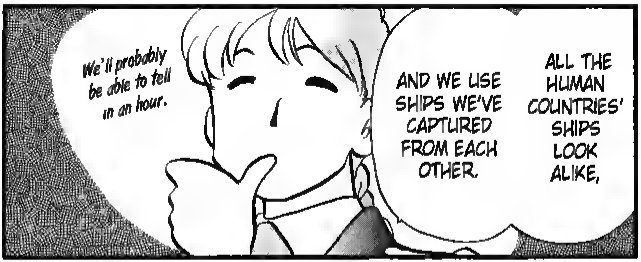
AND IT WILL BE MY JOB TO ESCORT HER?
LUCKILY, SHE'S ALREADY STUDYING ABROAD IN THE ALLIANCE, AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW CAIRO.
WE WILL NEED TO BRING HER HERE, THOUGH.
Twenty-four light years away
BUT SHE'S EIGHT YEARS OLD, ENUS.
SORRY TO DASH YOUR HOPES,
You're supposed to be a spy. You shouldn't let everything you're thinking show on your face.

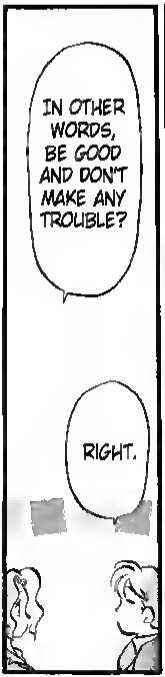

I'M ACURA BENNETT.
OH, A CAT?
I'M ENUS. THAT'S WIN-SLOW.
Meaaow.
I'M ALL SET.
LET'S GO.
RATTLE RATTLE

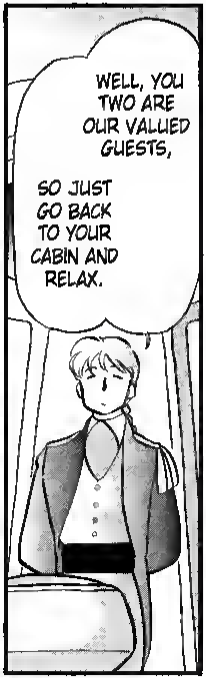

So...
As soon as they left neutral space, they were attacked by a ship from the Holy Empire. Both ships took heavy damage.
They were picked up by a commercial vessel that happened to be passing by.
THANKS.
TAKE CARE, ENOS.

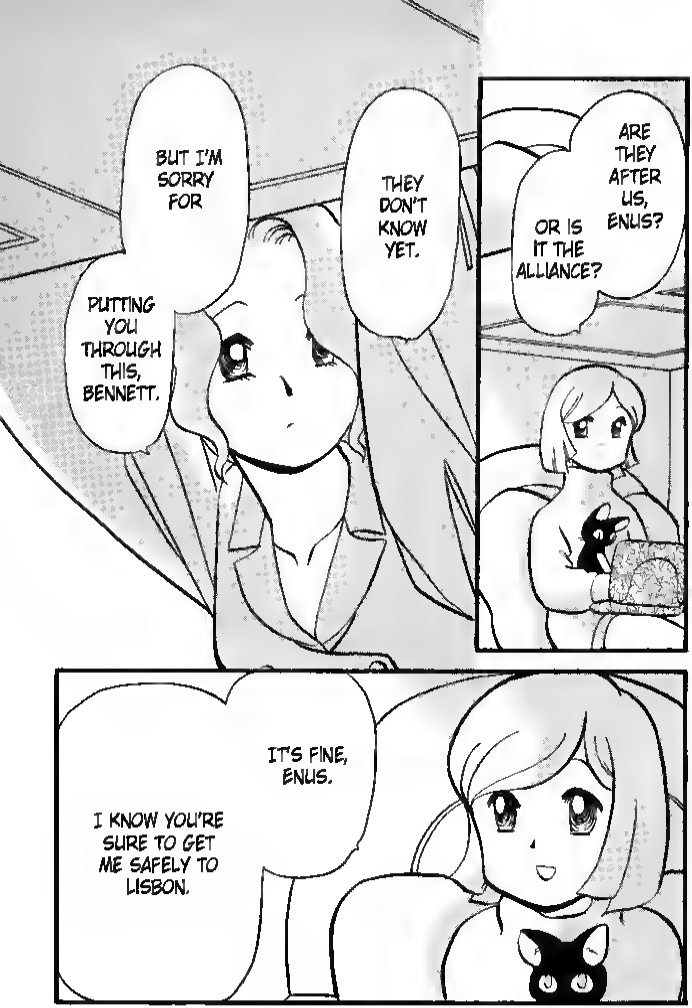

I DON'T KNOW. I'VE NEVER BEEN ON ONE.
WELL, THIS IS A SCHOONER. ISN'T IT THE SAME FOR ALLIANCE SHIPS?
IT SURE IS CRAMPED.
VSSHH
And so.....
Tch.
Oh.
ALL HANDS, ON ALERT.
SHIP SPOTTED AHEAD, OFF THE LEEWARD BOW.

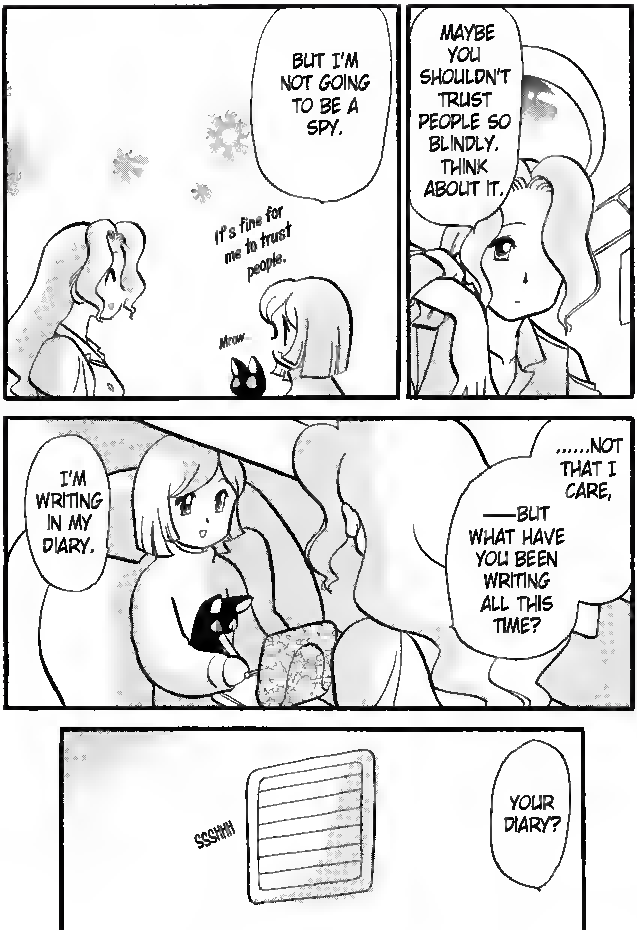

IT'S ON AN INTERCEPT COURSE WITH US.
IT'S A CLASS FIVE WARSHIP.
—A FRIGATE.
IS IT A FEDERATION WARSHIP?
IT'S TOO SOON TO TELL,
THOUGH WE ARE CERTAIN IT ISN'T SAURIAN.

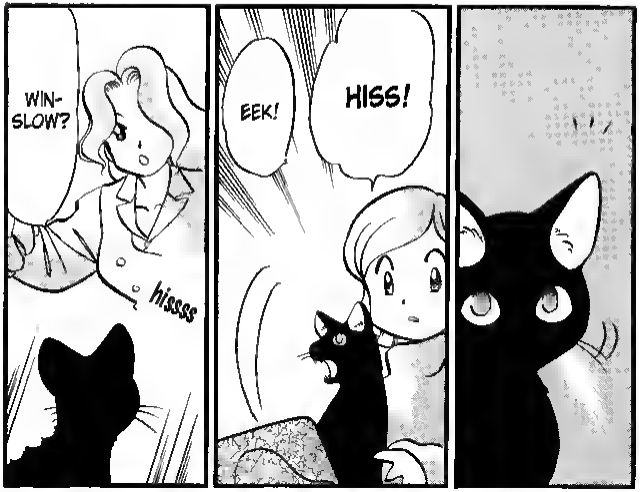

We'll probably be able to tell in an hour.
AND WE USE SHIPS WE'VE CAPTURED FROM EACH OTHER.
ALL THE HUMAN COUNTRIES' SHIPS LOOK ALIKE,


IN OTHER WORDS, BE GOOD AND DON'T MAKE ANY TROUBLE?
RIGHT.

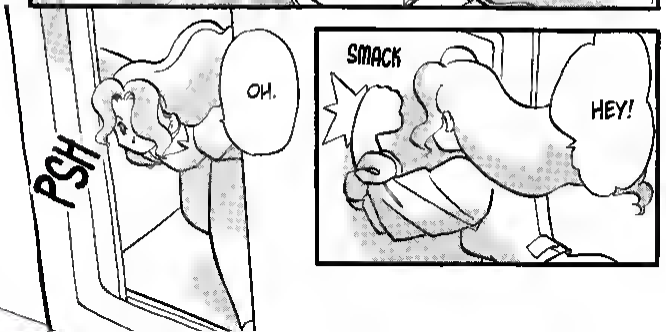

WELL, YOU TWO ARE OUR VALUED GUESTS,
SO JUST GO BACK TO YOUR CABIN AND RELAX.


ARE THEY AFTER US, ENUS?
OR IS IT THE ALLIANCE?
THEY DON'T KNOW YET.
BUT I'M SORRY FOR PUTTING YOU THROUGH THIS, BENNETT.
IT'S FINE, ENUS.
I KNOW YOU'RE SURE TO GET ME SAFELY TO LISBON.

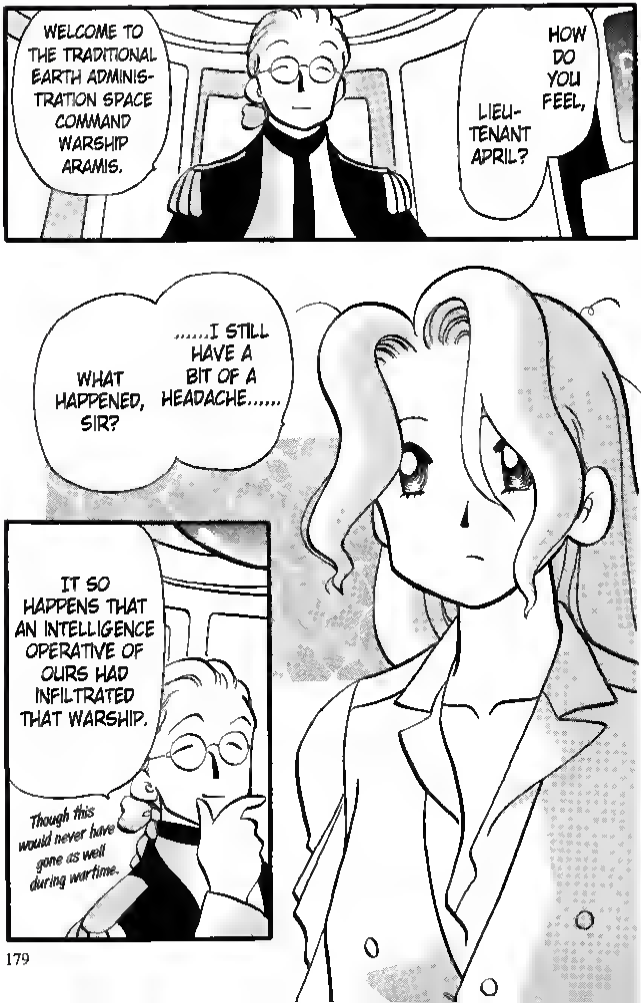

BUT I'M NOT GOING TO BE A SPY.
It's fine for me to trust people.
Meow
MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T TRUST PEOPLE SO BLINDLY. THINK ABOUT IT.
I'M WRITING IN MY DIARY.
.....NOT THAT I CARE,
——BUT WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN WRITING ALL THIS TIME?
SSSHH
YOUR DIARY?


WIN-
SLOW?
hissss
EEK!
HISS!

gasp
DIZZY


PSH
OH.
SMACK
HEY!

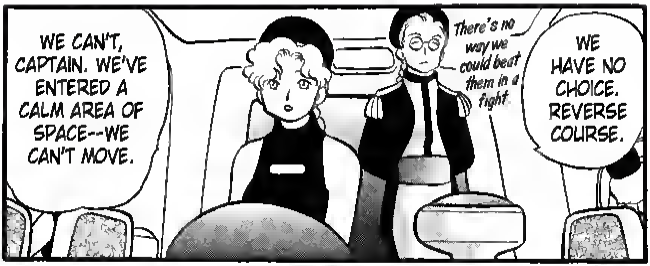
TH-THIS IS.....
THUD

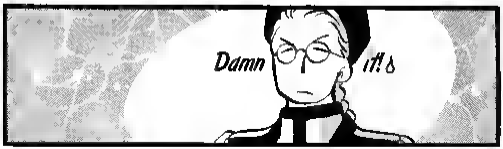

WELCOME TO THE TRADITIONAL EARTH ADMINISTRATION SPACE COMMAND WARSHIP ARAMIS.
HOW DO YOU FEEL, LIEUTENANT APRIL?
.....I STILL HAVE A BIT OF A HEADACHE.....
WHAT HAPPENED, SIR?
IT SO HAPPENS THAT AN INTELLIGENCE OPERATIVE OF OURS HAD INFILTRATED THAT WARSHIP.
Though this would never have gone as well during wartime.

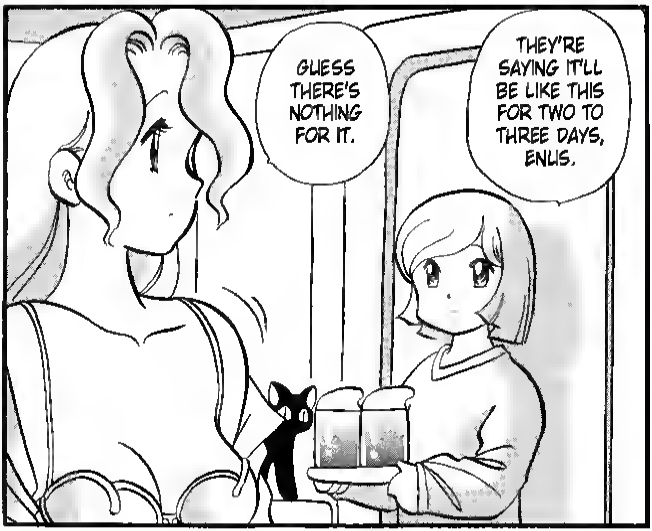
IT'S GOOD WE WERE ABLE TO AVOID A BATTLE.
ESPECIALLY SINCE THE OTHER SHIP HAD A GODDESS ON BOARD.
.....I DON'T CATCH YOUR MEANING.
HAHA-HAHA.
WELL, THAT'S FINE. GO ON AND MAKE YOURSELF COMFORT-ABLE.
WE'RE PREPARED TO RECEIVE ACUIRA EL-HAMSAM.
PSH
SORRY, BUT WE MUST INSIST YOU AC-COMPANY US.
PSH

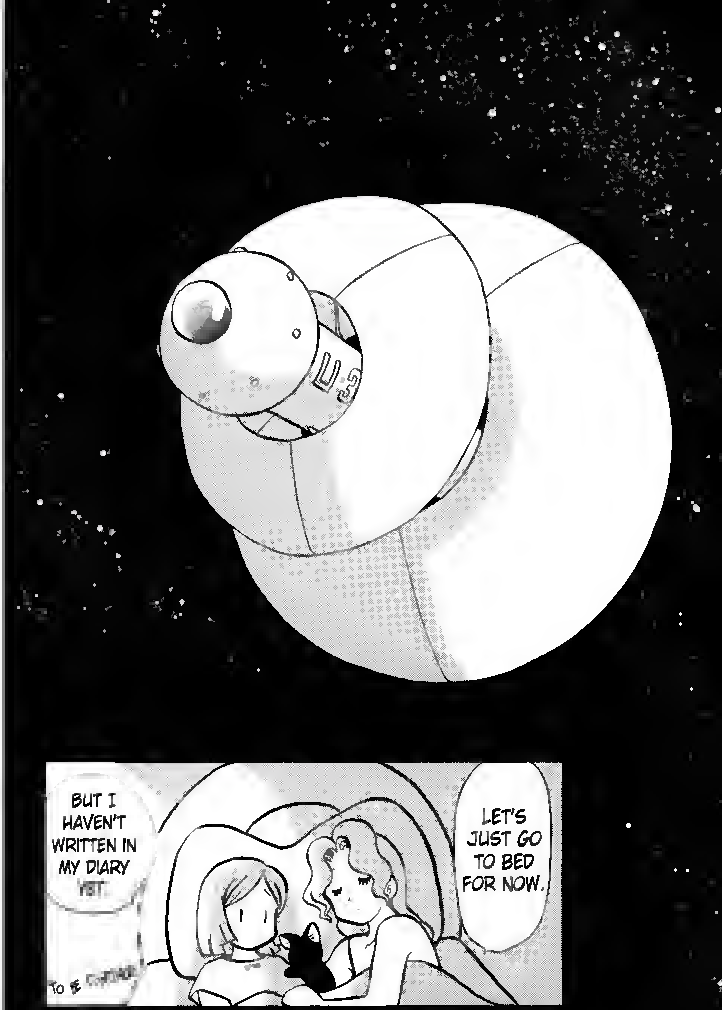
I'M COMPLETELY FINE.
YOU ALL RIGHT, BENNETT?
THIS CABIN IS A BIT BIGGER.
it's still cramped, though.
YOUR DIARY?
MY DIARY.

FWEEEE
WE HAVE VISUAL CONFIRMATION OF MULTIPLE SHIPS.
FWEEEE
OH! I HAVE TO GO.
AGAIN?
No, it's just...
Again?
THEY'RE CLASS THREE WARSHIPS.
—SHIPS-OF-THE-LINE, CAPTAIN.


WE CAN'T, CAPTAIN. WE'VE ENTERED A CALM AREA OF SPACE--WE CAN'T MOVE.
There's no way we could beat them in a fight.
WE HAVE NO CHOICE. REVERSE COURSE.


Damn it!


GUESS THERE'S NOTHING FOR IT.
THEY'RE SAYING IT'LL BE LIKE THIS FOR TWO TO THREE DAYS, ENUS.


BUT I HAVEN'T WRITTEN IN MY DIARY YET.
LET'S JUST GO TO BED FOR NOW.
TO BE CONTINUED

Transistor Venus

Chapter 15

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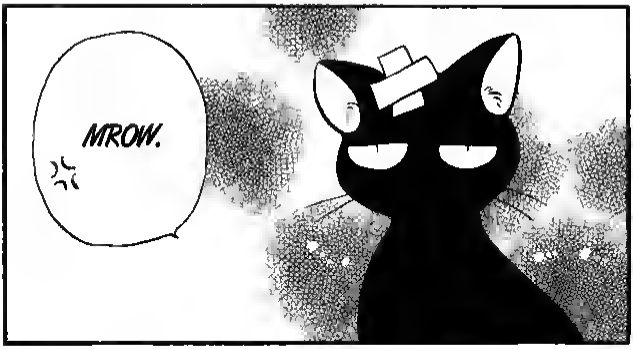
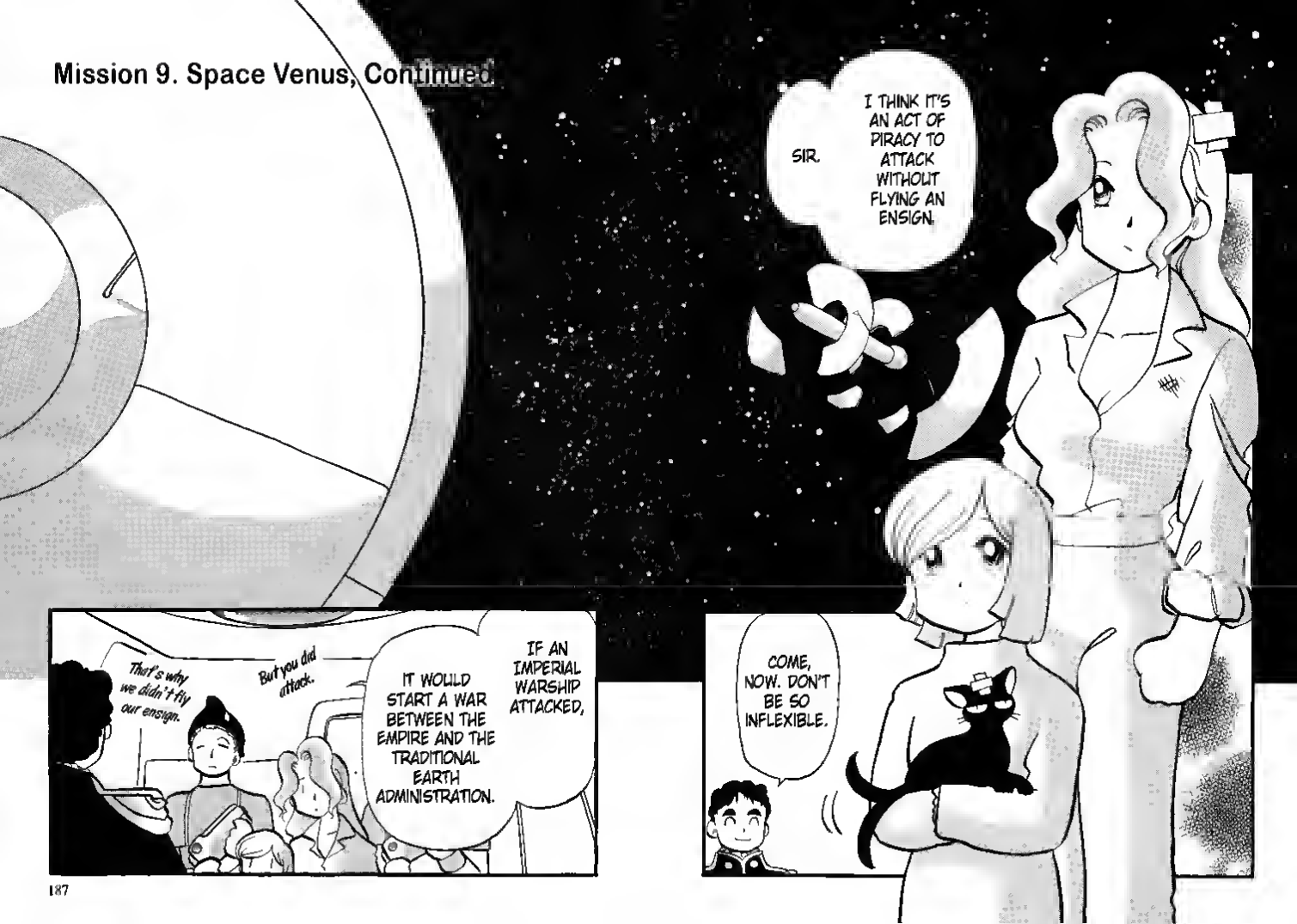
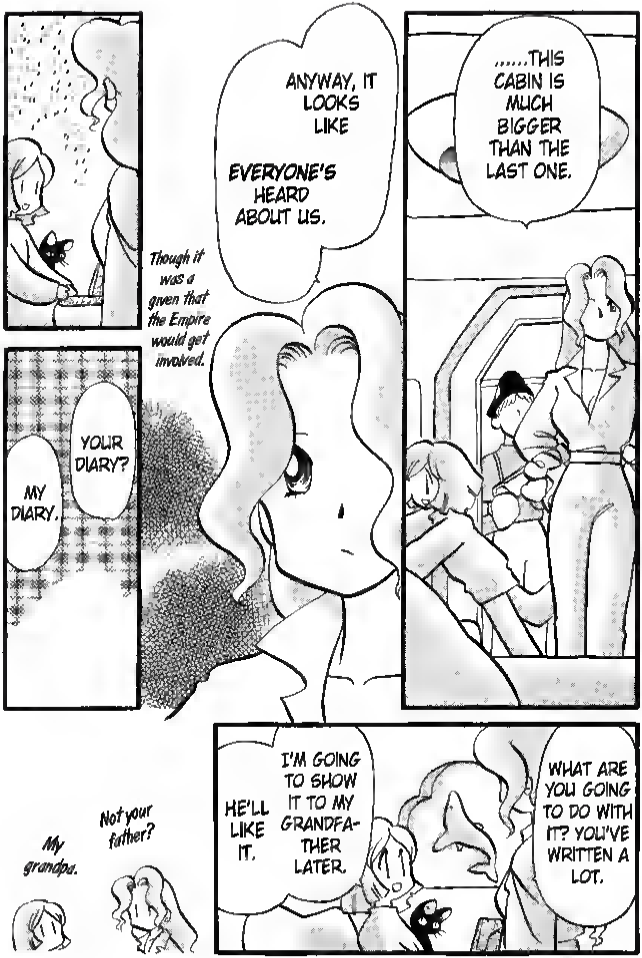
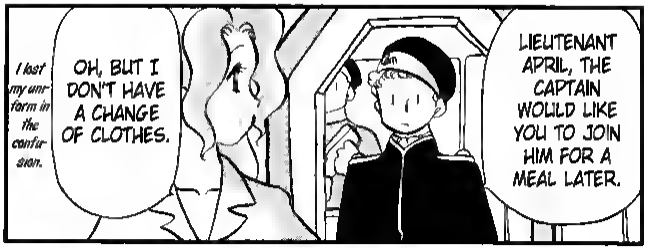

MROW.

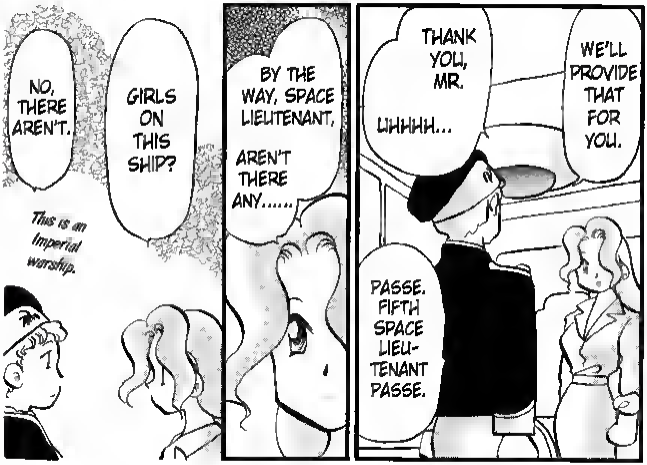
ALL RIGHT THERE? I HOPE YOU WEREN'T SERIOUSLY INJURED,
MISS ACURA, LIEUTENANT APRIL.

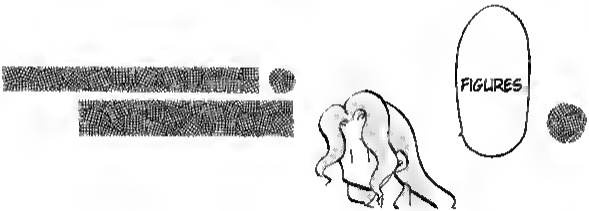

I THINK IT'S AN ACT OF PIRACY TO ATTACK WITHOUT FLYING AN ENSIGN.
SIR.
COME, NOW. DON'T BE SO INFLEXIBLE.
IF AN IMPERIAL WARSHIP ATTACKED,
IT WOULD START A WAR BETWEEN THE EMPIRE AND THE TRADITIONAL EARTH ADMINISTRATION.
But you did attack.
That's why we didn't fly our ensign.

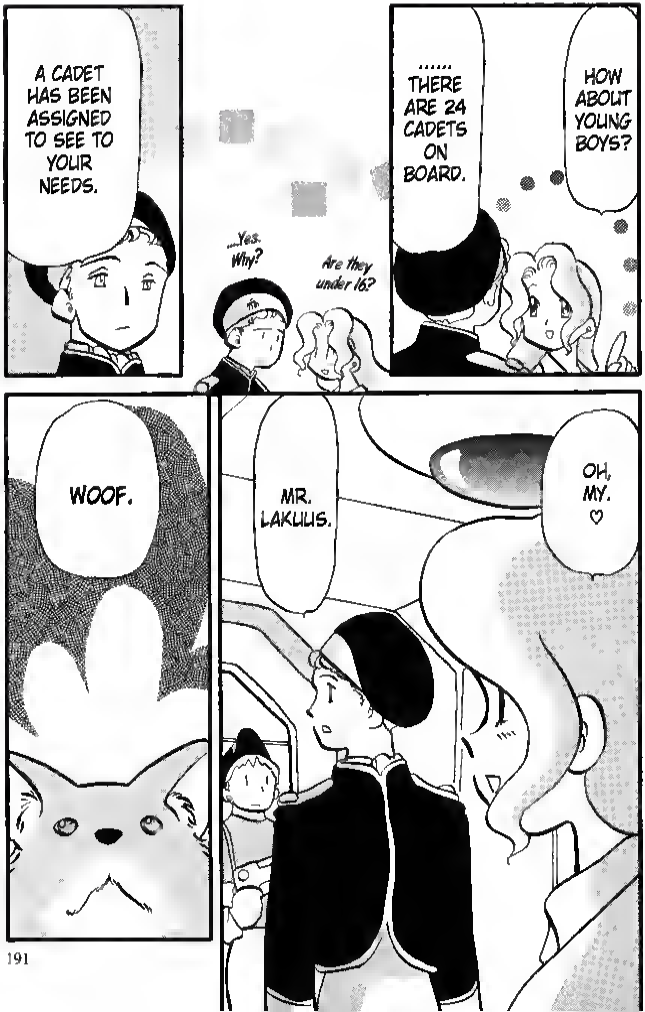
You're a goddess, after all.
WELL, THERE'S NO PROOF, SO THERE'S NOTHING THEY CAN DO.
AND WITH YOU ON BOARD, WE DIDN'T NEED TO HOLD BACK WITH OUR ATTACK.
RELAX AND ENJOY THE TRIP.
IT WILL TAKE US ABOUT TWO WEEKS TO GET TO LISBON.
WHAT GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO TRUST THE WORD OF A FOREIGN SPY?
I SAW IT.

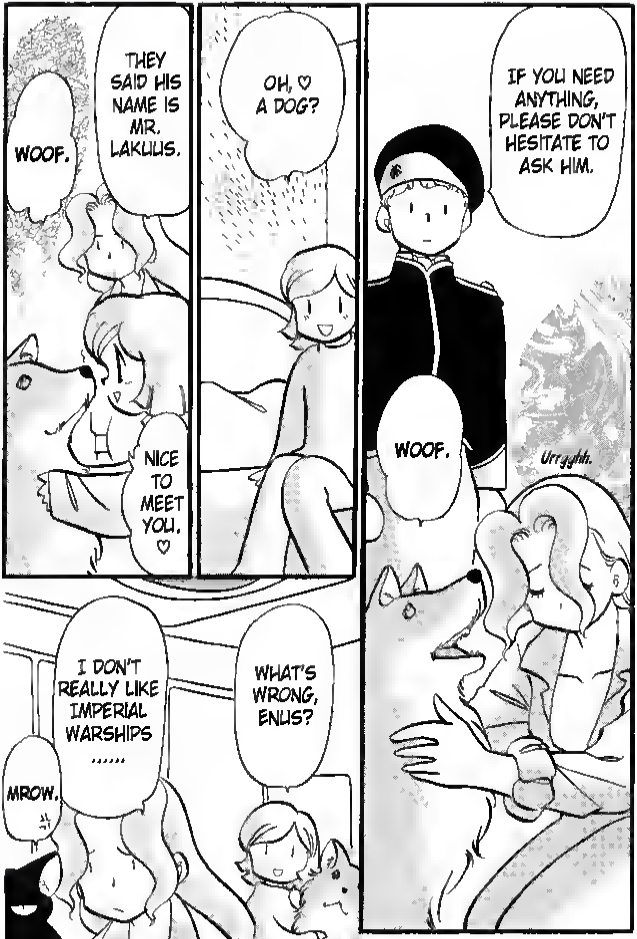

.....THIS CABIN IS MUCH BIGGER THAN THE LAST ONE.
ANYWAY, IT LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE'S HEARD ABOUT US.
Though it was a given that the Empire would get involved.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH IT? YOU'VE WRITTEN A LOT.
I'M GOING TO SHOW IT TO MY GRANDFATHER LATER.
HE'LL LIKE IT.
YOUR DIARY?
MY DIARY.
Not your father?
My grandpa.

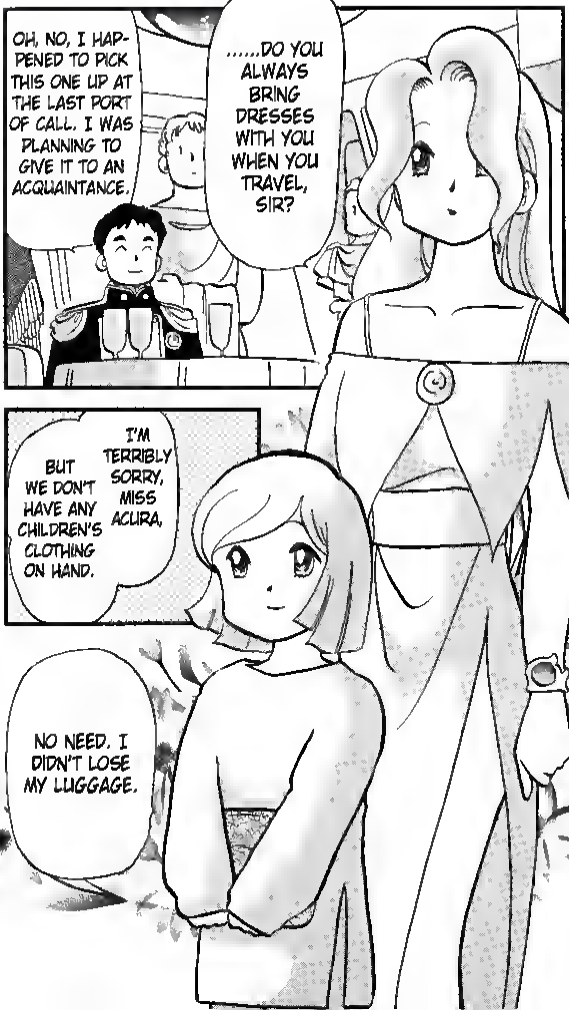

I lost my uniform in the confusion.
OH, BUT I DON'T HAVE A CHANGE OF CLOTHES.
LIEUTENANT APRIL, THE CAPTAIN WOULD LIKE YOU TO JOIN HIM FOR A MEAL LATER.

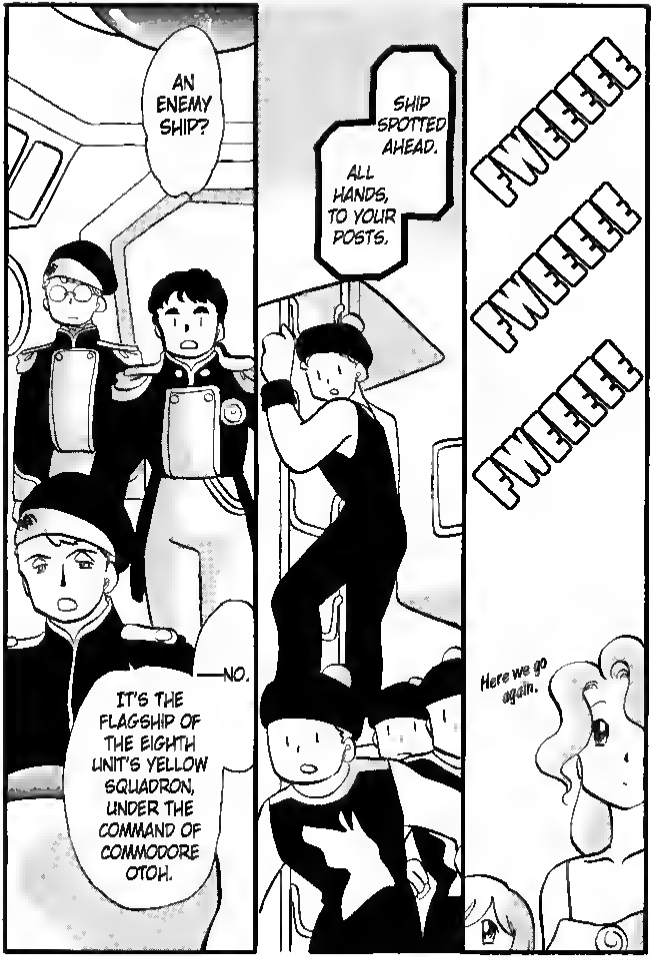

NO, THERE AREN'T.
GIRLS ON THIS SHIP?
This is an Imperial warship.
BY THE WAY, SPACE LIEUTENANT, AREN'T THERE ANY.....
THANK YOU, MR. LIHHHH...
WE'LL PROVIDE THAT FOR YOU.
PASSE. FIFTH SPACE LIEUTENANT PASSE.

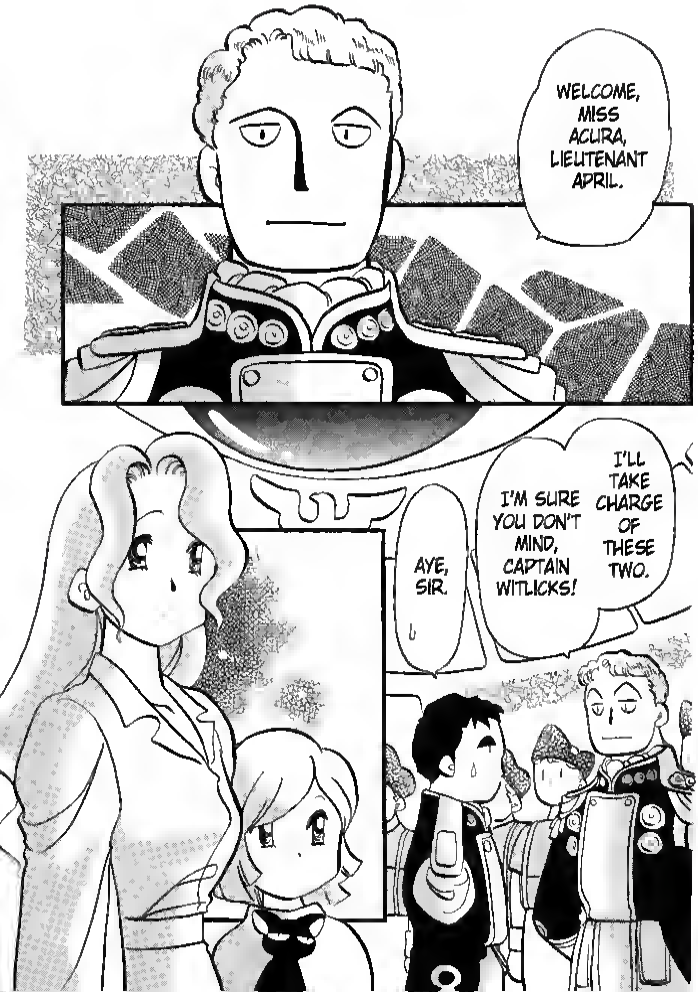

FIGURES


A CADET HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO SEE TO YOUR NEEDS.
...Yes. Why?
Are they under 16?
..... THERE ARE 24 CADETS ON BOARD.
HOW ABOUT YOUNG BOYS?
WOOF.
MR. LAKULUS.
OH, MY. ♡

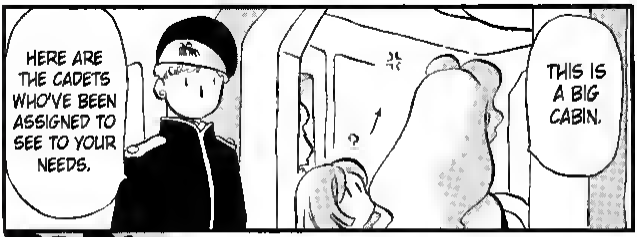

IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO ASK HIM.
Urrgghh.
WOOF.
OH, ♡ A DOG?
THEY SAID HIS NAME IS MR. LAKUUS.
WOOF.
NICE TO MEET YOU. ♡
WHAT'S WRONG, ENUS?
I DON'T REALLY LIKE IMPERIAL WARSHIPS ……
MROW.


OH, NO, I HAPPENED TO PICK THIS ONE UP AT THE LAST PORT OF CALL. I WAS PLANNING TO GIVE IT TO AN ACQUAINTANCE.
.....DO YOU ALWAYS BRING DRESSES WITH YOU WHEN YOU TRAVEL, SIR?
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, MISS ACLIRA,
BUT WE DON'T HAVE ANY CHILDREN'S CLOTHING ON HAND.
NO NEED. I DIDN'T LOSE MY LUGGAGE.

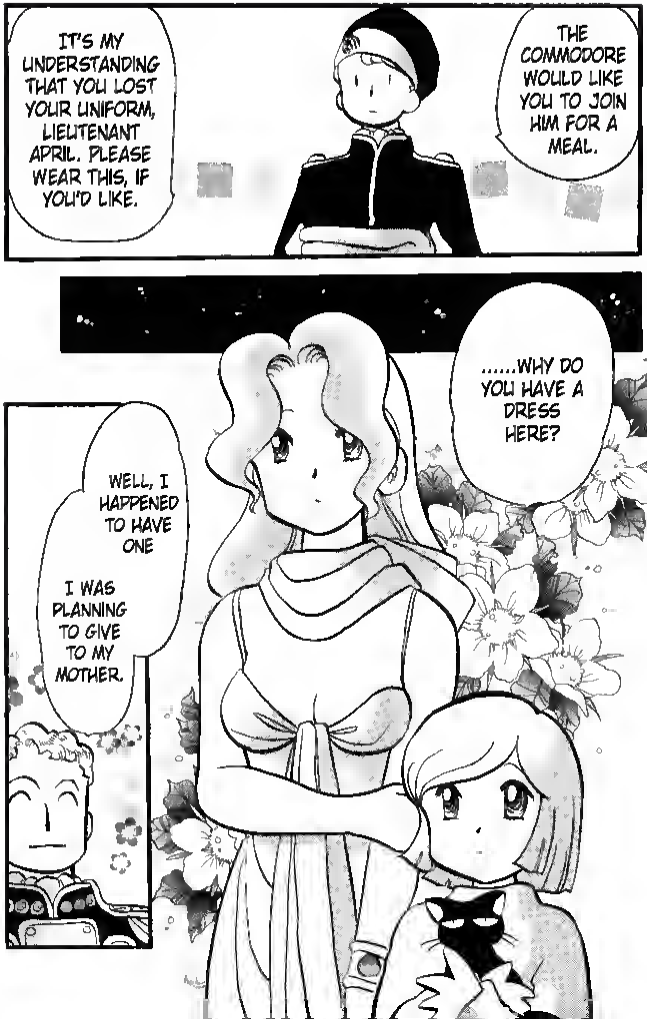

AN ENEMY SHIP?
—NO.
IT'S THE FLAGSHIP OF THE EIGHTH UNIT'S YELLOW SQUADRON, UNDER THE COMMAND OF COMMODORE OTOH.
SHIP SPOTTED AHEAD.
ALL HANDS, TO YOUR POSTS.
FWEEEE FWEEEE FWEEEE
Here we go again.


WELCOME, MISS ACURA, LIEUTENANT APRIL.
I'LL TAKE CHARGE OF THESE TWO.
I'M SURE YOU DON'T MIND, CAPTAIN WITLICKS!
AYE, SIR.

IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT SOMETHING DOES HAPPEN, THEY'LL BE SAFER ON A LARGER SHIP.
THOUGH HAVING A GODDESS ON BOARD WILL MAKE US FEEL SAFER, TOO.

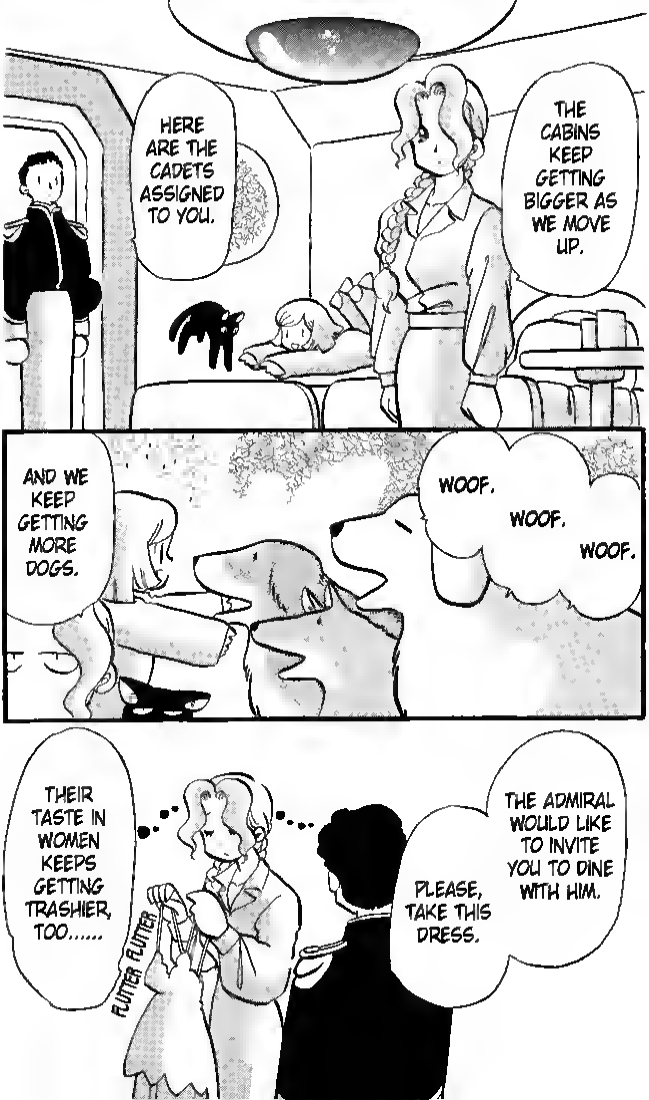

THIS IS A BIG CABIN.
HERE ARE THE CADETS WHO'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO SEE TO YOUR NEEDS.

WOOF.
WOOF.
Nice to meet you!


IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THAT YOU LOST YOUR UNIFORM, LIEUTENANT APRIL. PLEASE WEAR THIS, IF YOU'D LIKE.
THE COMMODORE WOULD LIKE YOU TO JOIN HIM FOR A MEAL.
.....WHY DO YOU HAVE A DRESS HERE?
WELL, I HAPPENED TO HAVE ONE
I WAS PLANNING TO GIVE TO MY MOTHER.

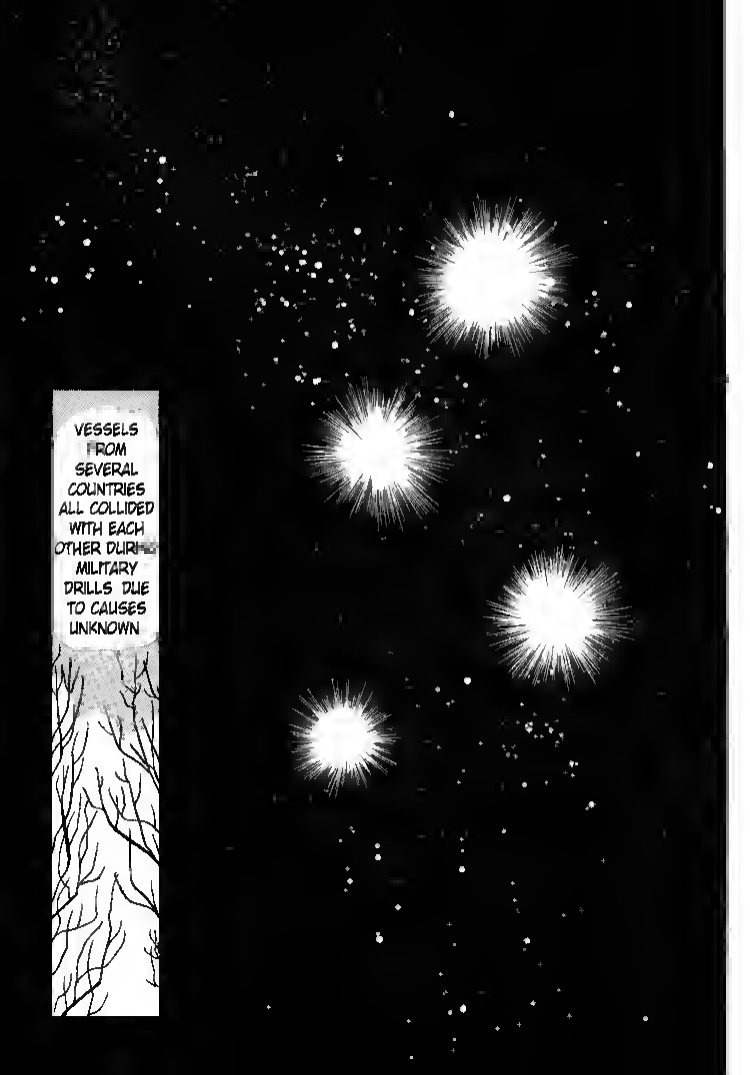
FWEEEEE FWEEEEE FWEEEEE
MM-HMM.
WHAT A YOUNG MOTHER YOU HAVE!
Oh, again.
A SHIP HAS BEEN SIGHTED.
WHAT IS IT?
IT'S ADMIRAL PRIMUS'S FLAGSHIP, THE CREMONA.

THIS IS A RATHER DANGEROUS SECTOR OF SPACE,
SO I'LL BE TAKING MISS ACURA IN MY SHIP.
AYE, ADMIRAL.
Leave it to me.
NO NEED TO BE SHY ABOUT ACCEPTING MY OFFER, OTOH.
MM. YOU SEE HOW IT IS.
I'M SURE SEVERAL GODDESSES WOULD COME IN HANDY FOR OUR FLEET.
WE'LL BE TAKING YOU TOO, OF COURSE, LIEUTENANT APRIL.

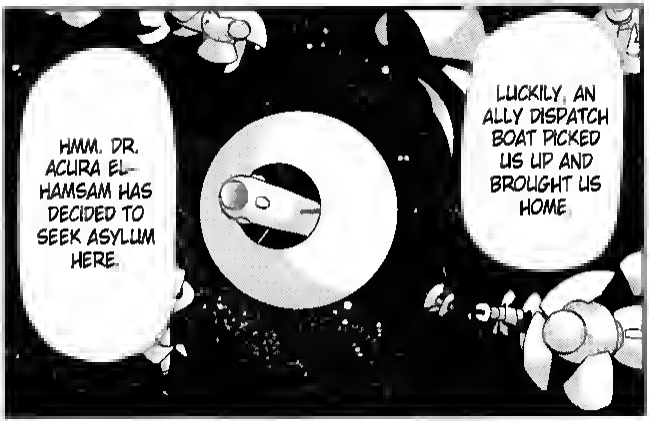

HERE ARE THE CADETS ASSIGNED TO YOU.
THE CABINS KEEP GETTING BIGGER AS WE MOVE UP.
AND WE KEEP GETTING MORE DOGS.
WOOF.
WOOF.
WOOF.
THEIR TASTE IN WOMEN KEEPS GETTING TRASHIER, TOO.....
FLUTTER FLUTTER
PLEASE, TAKE THIS DRESS.
THE ADMIRAL WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO DINE WITH HIM.

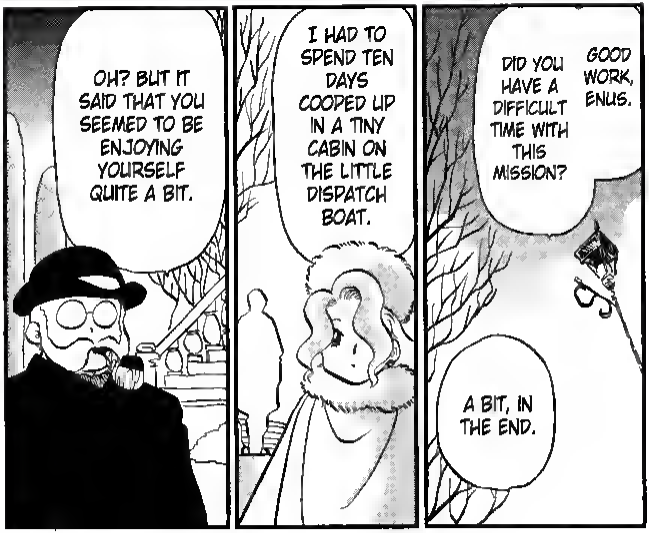
FWEEEEE
FWEEEEE
FWEEEEE
....Is it somehow connected to my changing clothes?
IT'S THE IMPERIAL GUARD FLEET THIRD UNIT FLAGSHIP GENIUS, UNDER THE COMMAND OF ADMIRAL TAYTUS.
Hardly one to talk.
THEY'RE SIGNALING TO US TO COME ABOARD, AND TO BRING THE TWO PASSENGERS WITH US.
DARN IT! PLANNING TO STEAL ALL THE CREDIT, IS HE?

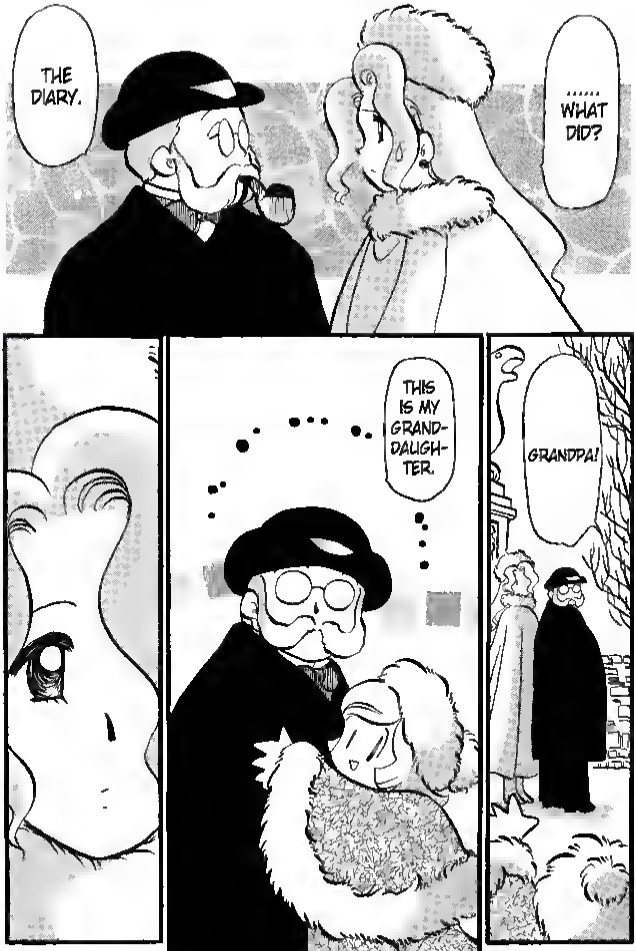
THEY'RE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY'S FAVOR TO——
OH! NO, IT'S NOT THEM!!
THIS IS THE IMPERIAL GUARD SHIP GALILEE. IT WAS STOLEN FROM A SPACE COMMAND SHIPYARD IN THE SURPRISE ATTACK ON NAPLES LAST YEAR.
THE HOLY EMPIRE?
THE ENEMY SHIP HAS OPENED FIRE!
PREPARE FOR BATTLE.
MULTIPLE SHIPS DETECTED.
THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY.

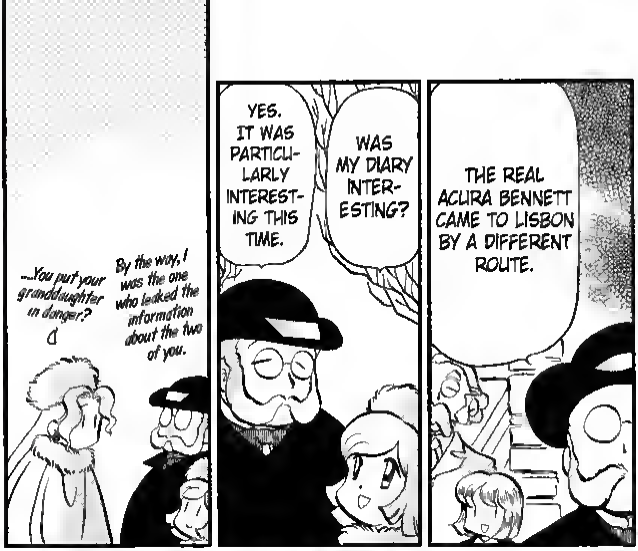

VESSELS FROM SEVERAL COUNTRIES ALL COLLIDED WITH EACH OTHER DURING MILITARY DRILLS DUE TO CAUSES UNKNOWN

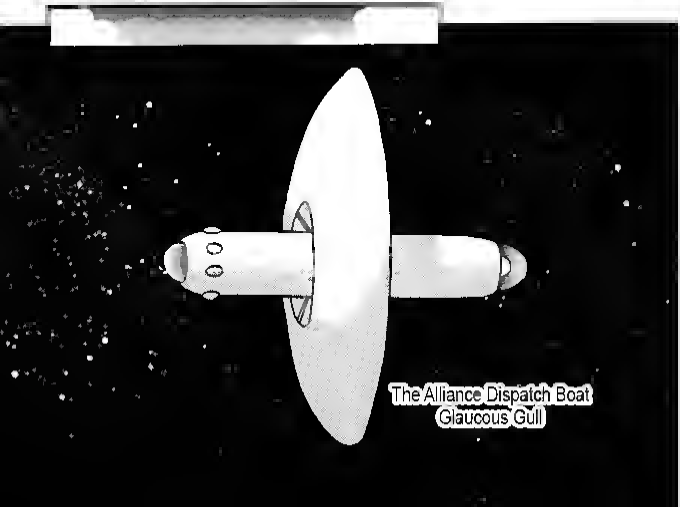
FORTUNATELY, THERE WEREN'T ANY FATALITIES.
.....WAS THAT JUST A COINCIDENCE?
THE HOLY EMPIRE, THE FEDERATION, THE EMPIRE, AND THE TRADITIONAL EARTH ADMINISTRATION.
—— THAT'S QUITE A FEW.
WELL?
SO WE DON'T KNOW HOW PARANORMAL ABILITIES BEHAVE THERE.
WELL, THAT AREA ISN'T AN EINSTEIN SPACE,
SIR.
I CAN'T IMAGINE A GODDESS'S PROTECTION COULD COVER AN AREA THAT WIDE.
SIR. WE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE CONFUSION TO BORROW A TENDER.


HMM. DR. ACURA EL-HAMSAM HAS DECIDED TO SEEK ASYLUM HERE.
LUCKILY, AN ALLY DISPATCH BOAT PICKED US UP AND BROUGHT US HOME.


OH? BUT IT SAID THAT YOU SEEMED TO BE ENJOYING YOURSELF QUITE A BIT.
I HAD TO SPEND TEN DAYS COOPED UP IN A TINY CABIN ON THE LITTLE DISPATCH BOAT.
GOOD WORK, ENUS.
DID YOU HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME WITH THIS MISSION?
A BIT, IN THE END.


THE DIARY.
.....WHAT DID?
THIS IS MY GRAND-DAUGH-TER.
GRANDPA!

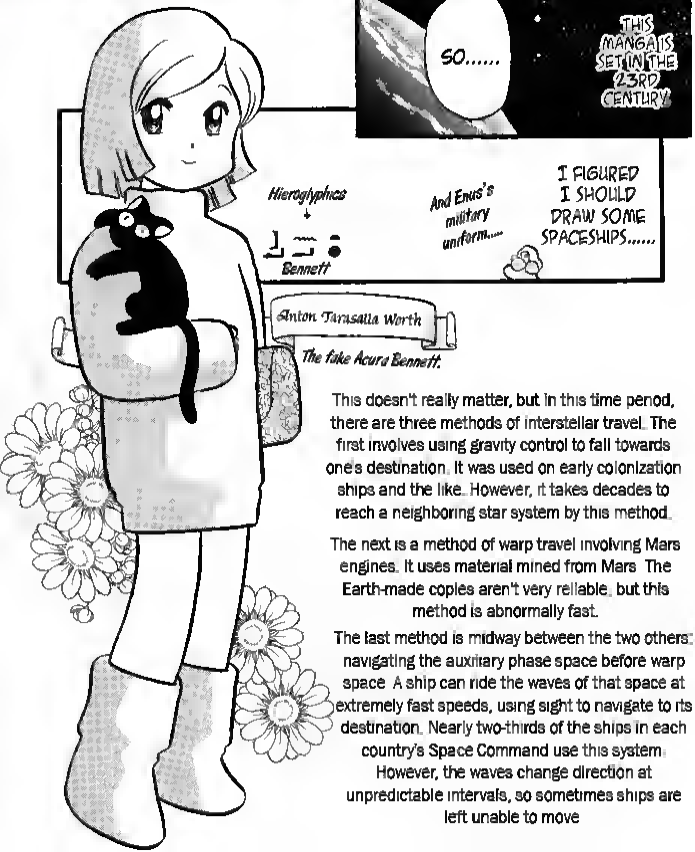

...You put your granddaughter in danger?
By the way, I was the one who leaked the information about the two of you.
YES. IT WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTING THIS TIME.
WAS MY DIARY INTERESTING?
THE REAL ACLIRA BENNETT CAME TO LISBON BY A DIFFERENT ROUTE.


The Alliance Dispatch Boat
Glaucous Gull

CONTINUED IN *TRANSISTOR VENUS* VOLUME 3.

The Making of "Mission 9: Space Venus"

February and March 2001 issues of *Comic Flapper*



This doesn't really matter, but in this time period, there are three methods of interstellar travel. The first involves using gravity control to fall towards one's destination. It was used on early colonization ships and the like. However, it takes decades to reach a neighboring star system by this method.

The next is a method of warp travel involving Mars engines. It uses material mined from Mars. The Earth-made copies aren't very reliable, but this method is abnormally fast.

The last method is midway between the two others: navigating the auxiliary phase space before warp space. A ship can ride the waves of that space at extremely fast speeds, using sight to navigate to its destination. Nearly two-thirds of the ships in each country's Space Command use this system. However, the waves change direction at unpredictable intervals, so sometimes ships are left unable to move

—So, about the various countries' Space Commands...

Space Command ranks are basically the same for every country. Space lieutenants are company officers, captains are field officers, and commodores and above are general officers.

The classes of the space lieutenants just show their seniority on a particular ship–they're all the same rank (lieutenant junior grade).

Also, if the captain of a small ship is a space lieutenant rather than a field officer, they're treated as lieutenants. Space lieutenants also serve as aides-de-camp to captains of large ships and general officers; those space lieutenants are also treated as lieutenants.

Paymasters and medical officers are chief warrant officers. They're treated as ensigns. Below them are warrant officers, and below them are cadet non-commissioned officers.

Additionally, in places like the the Allied Kingdoms and the Traditional Earth Administration, an officer's rank may differ a bit if they have been appointed by a leader such as a king or a United Nations secretary general (a hereditary position).

Well, I planned all of this out when I was scripting the story..... and I'll forget it if I don't write it down.

It looks like an old pin-up–like a Vargas, maybe....

Afterword

Thank goodness, thank goodness.
IT DIDN'T END UP GETTING INTO RISKY TERRITORY. EVEN THOUGH I EXPECTED IT TO.
WELL, THIS IS TRANSISTOR VENUS VOLUME 2.
I'M TAKEMOTO IZUMI. LET'S SKIP THE FORMALITIES.
Well, it is the 23rd century.
WELL, ENUS IS AS WEIRD AS EVER, THOUGH.
WELL, WHATEVER.
Meow.
WHY?
HEINLEIN AND ALEXANDER KENT STARTED WRITING THOSE SORT OF STORIES AS THEY GOT OLDER, TOO.
Early Period
Late period
Is it because I'm getting old?
Well, even I think I'm drawing that sort of story.

WELL, LOOK FORWARD TO THE THIRD VOLUME. UJAUJA.
Well, there's going to be more weird stuff in the third volume, so maybe "look forward to it" isn't the right thing to say.

Transistor Venus

Chapter 16

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